

Saint Thomas the Apostle Church

331 8th Street So. Brigantine, NJ

www.stthomasbrigantine.org

"Lord, You have come to the Seashore..."

December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of Advent



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

SAT: 4:00PM

SUN: 8, 9:30 & 11:00AM SUN.

WEEKDAYS

MON. - SAT.: 8:30AM

CONFESSION

Saturday: 3PM
or by appointment

PASTOR: Fr. Edward Maher
e.maher@stabrig.org

PERMANENT DEACON: Len Long

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

609-266-2123

Mon.- Thurs.: 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Friday 9:00AM - 1:00pm

office@stabrig.org

ASSUMPTION REGIONAL

CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Galloway,

609-652-7134

www.arcs.org

Principal: Joanne McKnight

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Mary Jane Kelso,

kelso.music@stabrig.org

FAITH FORMATION & RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION: Deacon Len Long

Deb Widmann & Mary Pizza

OFFICE MANAGER:

Jane Staunton

j.staunton@stabrig.org

BULLETIN EDITOR: Barb Cawley,

ext. 102

bulletin@stabrig.org

DEADLINE - WED., 10:00AM

**WELCOME TO
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH**

To Schedule Baptisms & Weddings

Please call the Parish Office.
(609) 266-2123 Ext. 3

Baptisms

Baptisms are held after the 11:00am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Baptism preparation is required prior to Baptism. Preparation sessions are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Call the parish office for further information and registration.

Religious Education

Our Religious Education Program is for Grades 1st thru 8th and classes are held on Mondays from September - May. Registration begins in August.

Care of the Sick

The Parish Office may be called any time for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. A Priest or Eucharistic Minister will administer the Eucharist to those who are homebound, **Our local hospitals also have a catholic priest available.**

St. Dismas Ministry

“Helping People Anonymously”

This ministry is available to anyone in Brigantine who feels overwhelmed by financial burdens and needs a helping hand. If you are in need of assistance, an application from the Parish Office must be completed first. The application is anonymous and if approved, short-term help will be provided. Please call the Parish Office.

Low Gluten Communion

If you wish to receive a Gluten Free Host at Communion, please notify the sacristan serving Mass. Communion will be distributed on the Baptismal Font side of the church, please seat yourself accordingly.

Weekly Devotions

Rosary: Mon. - Fri. : after 8:30am Mass
Saturday: 8:10am
Tuesday: 7PM

Miraculous Medal Novena: Wednesday

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Friday



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

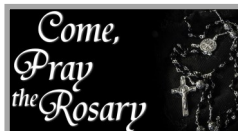
is every Friday from 9am-12noon. If there is a funeral, Adoration is held in the Parish Meeting Room, located behind the Rectory Office.

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	November 30
8:30AM	Theresa Cain by <i>Dominic Palumbo</i>
4:00PM	Tony Borghise by <i>Turzanski Family</i>
	Rose Iorio by <i>Turzanski Family</i>
	Marie Boyle by <i>Sandee Holdsworth</i>
Sunday	December 1 (1st Sunday of Advent)
8:00AM	Sally Sooy by <i>Jan Persson</i>
	Jennifer Shaw by <i>Tony & Nancy Aliantro</i>
	Sal Nesto by <i>Nesto Family</i>
9:30AM	Michael Esposito, Jr. by <i>Bilello Family</i>
11:00AM	John, Nancy, & James Browne by <i>Browne Family</i>
Monday	December 2
8:30AM	Cathleen “Cathy” Matteis by <i>Linda Serale</i>
Tuesday	December 3
8:30AM	Francis Kuarterman by <i>Turzanski Family</i>
Wednesday	December 4
8:30AM	Barbara Smyth by <i>Joan DeVecchis</i>
Thursday	December 5
8:30AM	William Lavin by <i>Family</i>
Friday	December 6
8:30AM	Francis Egan by <i>Basketball Officials</i>
Saturday	December 7
8:30AM	Elizabeth Maguire by <i>Maguire Children</i>
4:00PM	Gregory Nacios by <i>Marsha & Ron Williams</i>
	Tom Pantalena by <i>Eileen & Joe Kelly</i>
	Maria Mattessich by <i>Family</i>
	Joseph J. Palmer by <i>Fran & Wayne Johnson</i>
Sunday	December 8 (2nd Sunday of Advent)
8:00AM	Philomena Arena by <i>Anthony & Deb Phillips</i>
	James & Jimmy Justo by <i>Joann & Stacy</i>
9:30AM	Rita & Richard Dougherty
	by <i>Betsy & Michael Dougherty</i>
	Italiano & Culmone Families by <i>Elena Italiano</i>
	Sally Sooy by <i>Marie & John Hillman</i>
	Sal Nesto by <i>Nesto Family</i>
11:00AM	Suzanne Fedele by <i>Donald & Linda Mattessich</i>

ALTAR ANGELS

All Altar Angels, please come into the Sacristy and pick up your schedule and a little gift for all your hard work. Your time and talent is very much appreciated. Thank You!



Rosary for Peace

Come join us every **Tuesday at 7pm** as we gather and pray the Rosary. **All are welcome.**



“What you do after you say you believe”

“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.” Luke 21:28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by living Stewardship and sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.



To get started with online Giving, log onto our parish website: stthomasbrigantine.org and click on the **Parish Giving** button or click on the QR code.



DIOCESAN COLLECTION

Next Weekend, December 7th/8th, our second collection will be a Diocesan collection for our Retired Religious.

Elderly religious need your help. Nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated their lives to serving others by praying for us, ministering to all, educating the young, caring for those who are sick, and helping those in need - usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings Your donation will make a real difference by providing essential care, medicine, and other necessities. Please be generous. As always, we thank you for your donation.

Additional Confessions

On **Saturday, December 21st**, additional confessions will be heard after the 4pm Mass during the hour of **5:00pm - 6:00pm**.

Prayer Requests



FOR ALL OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fernando Alonso

Please keep their families in your prayers.

FOR OUR SICK:

Armand Savino, Claudette Liberto, Steve Steranko, M. Mazzone, Marie Twist, Kristina McDaniel, Jim Covert, Aurora Mary Gross, Zoe Rodriguez, Diane Certo, Melanie Hudson, Jim Schwab, Brody Pomager, Joanne Miller, Presley McBride, Leah Loreaux, Diane & Charles Kuczynski, Robert Darin, Michael Feldman, Dominic Delia, Loretta Smith, Carol Graham, Madeline Harvey, Ronald DiPinto, James Ruggiano, John Gans, Stacie Williams, Wyatt Joseph O'Brien, Joseph Saunders, Annmarie Staffieri, Rob Moody, Andy Papp, Spencer Andrews, Dora Meyers, Dan Bordonaro, Jack Bordonaro, Cheryl Kenney

FOR THOSE WHO SERVE:

Capt. Robert Glanville, USMC, Maj. Jeffrey Moon, USAF,
 Sgt. Matt Krimm, US Army, Maj. Matt Valnoski, US Army,
 Cpl. Tristen T. Barry, USMC, Sgt. Ronald DeWaal, USMC,
 PFC Jaryd Witkowski, US Army, Pvt. Matt Rehill, US Army,
 Ofc. Stephen D. Vanzant, US Navy,
 Lt. Cmdr. Tim Kerley, US Navy, FN Brendan E. Mackey, USCG,
 Sgt. Robert McAllister, US Army

Prayer Chain Network: The network prays for the immediate needs of others. To make a confidential request, please contact Renata Rynkiewicz at 609-705-9144



**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
 MASS: 8:30AM & 6:30PM**

Ministry Schedule December 7th & December 8th

	President	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
SAT. 4:00PM	Fr. Ed	M. Stinson	F. Streeper, B. DeLucry, M. Stinson
SUN. 8:00AM	Fr. Bob	B. Bologa	A. Solari, D. Phillips, K. Mogan
SUN. 9:30AM	Fr. Ed	M. Dougherty	G.Scutti, R. Pagoulatos, M. Brindisi
SUN. 11:00AM	Msgr. Morgan	J. Murray	Deacon, T. Tomlin, L. Flanagan

*******SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE******* If you cannot attend, please find a replacement. THANK YOU!

Giving Trees
Helping Those in Need



Seniors without Families
December 1st – December 12th

- Take a senior tag from the tree
- Purchase requested item(s) listed
- Wrap gift
- Place gift under the tree with the tag visible
important, we need to know who the gift is for!

We work together with “Home Instead”, and each gift is specifically matched to a senior who has no family.

REMINDER:

Your hurricane relief gift card donations for North Carolina are due today, Sunday, December 1st.

This deadline is to ensure that all gift cards will be received by the **Basilica of St. Lawrence in Ashville, NC in time for Christmas.**



LITTLE CATHOLIC SHOP

We are fully stocked with items for everyone on your Christmas list. Stop by and see our array of specialty items. We also have cards and gifts for all occasions and Sacraments. The shop is open every Sunday after all morning masses.



SUNDAES WITH SANTA

Date: TODAY, Sunday, December 1st

Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Place: St. Philip Hall @ St. Thomas Church, 331 8th Street S.

Available for kids ages 1 - 10

Bring your camera for pictures with Santa.

Come enjoy an afternoon with Santa, making sundaes, and arts & crafts.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our tradition here at St. Thomas' is to decorate the Altar and church with beautiful Poinsettia Flowers as we celebrate the Birth of Our Lord.

The Poinsettia Flowers are known as “**Flowers of the Holy Night**”. The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought to be a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ.

All parishioners and visitors are invited to make a donation **IN MEMORY** (deceased) or **IN HONOR** of a loved one. The envelope is included in the packet or can be found at the entrances of the church. The envelopes will be placed and remain on the Altar during the Christmas season.

Christmas Flower Offering

In Memory / Honor of...
(Please Print)

- In Memory of
 In Honor of

- In Memory of
 In Honor of

- In Memory of
 In Honor of

- In Memory of
 In Honor of

- In Memory of
 In Honor of





**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS
POSTER CONTEST**

The poster contest is in full swing! for all Religious Education students. Posters will be judged on the theme of "Keep Christ in Christmas". **Deadline for entries is tomorrow, December 2nd.** Contest winners will be announced and cash prizes awarded by the Knights of Columbus on December 9th. All poster entries will be showcased in St. Philip Hall during the Advent season. Feel free to stop in the hall and admire the talent of our Religious Education students.



**Sweatpants/Winter Coat Drive for:
Angels in Motion
Brigantine Public School
Atlantic City Public Schools**

Sweatpants for children in BLACK or NAVY BLUE (Sizes S - XXL). Coats for adults.

All donations will be distributed to local families in need.

DROP OFF ONLY AT BRIGANTINE COMMUNITY CHURCH THRIFT SHOP on SATURDAYS: 9:00am to 11:30am. LAST DAY IS DECEMBER 7TH.



Hospitality Sunday & Poinsettia Sale

Come join us on **December 8th** during **Hospitality Sunday**. Not only will you enjoy complimentary coffee, doughnuts, and cinnamon buns, but you'll have the opportunity to purchase a poinsettia plant for the Christmas Season. We will have 4" & 6" pots available. Supply will be limited.

What's Happening

- Dec. 01 Sundaes with Santa 2:00pm - 4:00pm (Hall)
- Dec. 02 Religious Ed. Classes 4:00pm - 7:00pm
- Dec. 03 Rosary 7:00pm
Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:30pm (Hall)
- Dec. 04 Women's Club Meeting 6:30pm (Hall)

**A Holiday "Family" Event
Sponsored by 4Ever Young
ALL AGES INVITED**



Join Us for a Christmas Sing Along With:
Jackie & The Gents!

MONDAY **December 16th**

6:00pm at St. Thomas Church

Pizza & Sandwiches Will Be Served
After The Concert.

Any questions call Eileen Robbins at 610.721.7438.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
OPEN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
8:00AM - 1:00PM**

Location: 601 Bayshore Ave.

We have items for every room of your house. Also, **we have seasonal (fall, Halloween, and Christmas) decorations. We look forward to seeing you.**

PLEASE NOTE: *We ARE NOT accepting donations at this time.*****



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!

CHRISTMAS EVE	NEW YEAR'S EVE
Tuesday, Dec. 24	Tuesday, Dec. 31
4:00pm - Children's Mass	4:00pm - Mass
6:00pm - Mass	
10:00pm - Mass (caroling @9:35pm)	
CHRISTMAS DAY	NEW YEAR'S DAY
Wednesday, Dec. 25	Wednesday, Jan. 1
9:30am - Mass ONLY	8:30am

Children's Liturgy 9:30am Mass

If you have young children, know that they are welcome at Mass! We have a special liturgy for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade students every Sunday at 9:30am Mass. The Liturgy of the Word is taught to the children in words they can understand. We look forward to seeing and teaching your children.

Weekly Children's Activity Worksheets are available at the main entrance of the church and the hall. There are two age appropriate sheets: Step by Step (Pre-school to 2nd Grade) and the Kids Bulletin (Age 8/ up), please take one for your child.

BECOMING FULLY CATHOLIC

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you or someone you know is not fully initiated in the Catholic Church (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), or a family member or friend has questions about becoming a Catholic, please contact **Deacon Len Long at 609-335-6470**.

BULLETIN DEADLINES UPDATED

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. ALL BULLETIN DEADLINES HAVE BEEN CHANGED. Please contact the Parish Office @ 609-266-2123 for further information. **The changes will be in effect until January 5th, 2025**

ANNOUNCEMENTS must be received in the office by **WEDNESDAY, 10 days prior** to the weekend of publication. They may also be emailed to bulletin@stabrig.org.



CALLING ALL SHEPERDS AND ANGELS (1st thru 4th Grade Religious Ed Students)

Any Religious Education students in the 1st thru 4th grades who would like to be included in this year's Christmas Eve Pageant, **MUST ATTEND A MANDATORY PRACTICE on Wednesday, December 18th, from 4PM to 5PM in the CHURCH.** Christmas Eve Mass is Tuesday, Dec. 24th @ 4:00pm. **NO DROP INS ON DECEMBER 24TH.** Any questions, contact Mary Pizza or Deb Widmann @ 609-266-2123.



The Women's Club

A caring community of Christian Women within our Church

Greetings to all Women's Club members. At our November meeting we collected loads of TastyKakes for our Veterans. Our December meeting will be our Christmas party so no donations are requested. We will provide food and drinks and some fun gift exchanges for those interested. We will hold this meeting on **Wednesday December 4th at 6:30 p.m. in St. Philip Hall.** New members are always welcome to join our club.

NJ Veterans Hotline for Suicide Prevention

"Life doesn't have to be a battlefield."

Confidential Peer Support for NJ Veterans

1-866-838-7654 or www.njveteranshelpline.org
Sponsored by Rutgers NJ Dept. of Military Affairs

Diocese of Camden Addiction Hotline:

1-855-5HOPE4U

REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

An independent, toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the N.J. Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement.