

Saint Thomas the Apostle Church

331 8th Street So. Brigantine, NJ

www.stthomasbrigantine.org

“Lord, You have come to the Seashore...”

December 8, 2024
2nd 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.

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	December 7
8:30AM	Elizabeth Maguire <i>by Maguire Children</i>
4:00PM	Gregory Nacios <i>by Marsha & Ron Williams</i>
	Tom Pantalena <i>by Eileen & Joe Kelly</i>
	Maria Mattessich <i>by Family</i>
	Joseph J. Palmer <i>by Fran & Wayne Johnson</i>
Sunday	December 8 (2nd Sunday of Advent)
8:00AM	Philomena Arena <i>by Anthony & Deb Phillips</i>
	James & Jimmy Justo <i>by Joann & Stacy</i>
9:30AM	Rita & Richard Dougherty
	<i>by Betsy & Michael Dougherty</i>
	Italiano & Culmone Families <i>by Elena Italiano</i>
	Sally Sooy <i>by Marie & John Hillman</i>
	Sal Nesto <i>by Nesto Family</i>
	Helen & Joseph Sipus <i>by Asha Freytag</i>
11:00AM	Suzanne Fedele <i>by Donald & Linda Mattessich</i>
Monday	December 9 (Immaculate Conception)
8:30AM	Catherine & Frank Grove <i>by Anne Grove</i>
6:30PM	Kathleen Zuber <i>by Elena Italiano</i>
Tuesday	December 10
8:30AM	Raymond Myers <i>by Joe Bavosa</i>
Wednesday	December 11
8:30AM	June M. Grentz <i>by Joan DeVecchis</i>
Thursday	December 12
8:30AM	Joann Marchesani <i>by Carmen Irene Perez</i>
Friday	December 13
8:30AM	Bill Dupper <i>by Kathy & Bill Bennett</i>
Saturday	December 14
8:30AM	Frank Dominico <i>by Marie Hillman</i>
4:00PM	Rita Durante <i>by Sunshine Bingo Club</i>
	Willy Johnson <i>by Annie & Mark Weichman</i>
	Michael Esposito, Jr. <i>by Mary & Joseph Serpente</i>
	Eugenia Van Winkle <i>by Family</i>
Sunday	December 15 (3rd Sunday of Advent)
8:00AM	Sally Sooy <i>by Kitten Cooke</i>
9:30AM	Robert Gentile <i>by Sister Carmel</i>
11:00AM	Helen Stipo <i>by Joe & MJ Kelso</i>
	Robert Long <i>by Kathe & John Murray</i>
	Nick Stabile <i>by Mary</i>
	Florence Theresa Long <i>by Mike & Gail Gallagher</i>
	Joseph DeGovann <i>by Turzanski Family</i>
	Susan Ruddle <i>by Thiry Family</i>

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.

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!



“What you do after you say you believe”

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” Philippians 1:9-10

During the Christmas shopping season, it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To live Stewardship and grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

Collections for:
Nov. 16th & Nov. 17th
Offertory: \$ 8,027.00
E-Giving: \$ 2,304.00
School: \$ 2,178.00
\$11,911.00



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

This weekend, December 7th and 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.

Prayer Requests



FOR ALL OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Susan Van Nest, Patricia Sweeney

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, Cheryl Kenney, Wyatt Joseph O'Brien, Joseph Saunders, Stacie Williams, Annmarie Staffieri, Rob Moody, Andy Papp, Dora Meyers, Dan Bordonaro, Jack Bordonaro, Diane Anderson

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

Liturgy and Life

Advent is a time of “preparing the way,” of moving the world toward the reign of God. This undoubtedly includes the protection of human rights throughout the world. International Human Rights Day takes place this Tuesday. It was established by the United Nations in 1948. While this joint declaration of nations asserts some thirty universal human rights, including the rights to life, health care, education, and privacy, many of the world’s people suffer under systems of law or economics that prevent the exercise of these rights. Explore how your parish can commit itself to the preservation of all human rights, rights that are inherent to their dignity as created in the image and likeness of God.

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Ministry Schedule December 14th & December 15th

	Presider	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
SAT. 4:00PM	Fr. Ed	ML DiFranks	F. Streeper, B.DeLucry, M. Stinson
SUN. 8:00AM	Msgr. Morgan	F. Burbridge	G. Gallagher, B. O'Connor, G. Espinoza
SUN. 9:30AM	Msgr. Pashley	J. Robbins	G. Scutti, P. Zuber, M. Brindisi
SUN. 11:00AM	Fr. Ed	E. Stafford	Deacon, F. Sucharski, R. Wilson

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



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

The United States Conference of Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Canonical Affairs has issued modifications regarding the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patronal Feast Day of the United States. Because the December 8 feast day coincides with the 2nd Sunday of Advent, it was originally transferred to Monday, December 9th, and the requirement to attend Mass was initially lifted. However, recent updates from the USCCB this October indicated that the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 9, 2024 will now be recognized as a **holy day of obligation and all are obliged to participate in Mass.**



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, Dec. 24

4:00pm - Children's Mass
6:00pm - Mass
10:00pm - Mass (caroling @9:35pm)

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Tuesday, Dec. 31

4:00pm - Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec. 25

9:30am - Mass ONLY

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesday, Jan. 1

8:30am

Additional Confessions

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

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.

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)

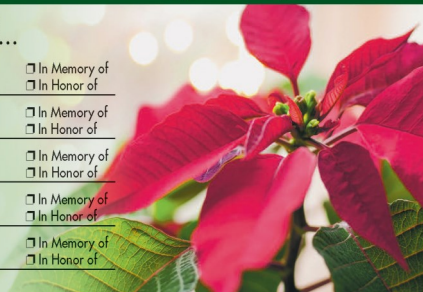
In Memory of
 In Honor of

In Memory of
 In Honor of

In Memory of
 In Honor of

In Memory of
 In Honor of

In Memory of
 In Honor of



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 donations for are due THURSDAY,
December 12TH.**

A Holiday "Family" Event Sponsored by 4Ever Young
All Ages are Invited



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

Pizza & Sandwiches Will Be Served After The Concert.
Any questions call Eileen Robbins @ 610-721-7438

MONDAY, December 16th
6:00pm At St. Thomas Church



Hospitality Sunday & Poinsettia Sale

Come join us **today, 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.

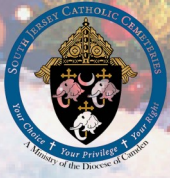
LITTLE CATHOLIC SHOP

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.



Join Us For Advent Mass
 Masses will be held in our Chapel Mausoleums
 at 10 a.m.

- 12/16 All Saints Cemetery | Newfield
- 12/16 Holy Cross Cemetery | Mays Landing
- 12/16 Sacred Heart Cemetery | Vineland
- 12/17 Calvary Cemetery | Cherry Hill
- 12/20 New St. Mary Cemetery | Bellmawr



For more information visit:

southjerseycatholiccemeteries.org/events/category/main-events/

Thank You

The family of **Joseph A. Migatz, Jr.** would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to everyone for their kindness, thoughtfulness, and Mass cards. Your support has been a great comfort to our family during this difficult time and we appreciate your kindness.



**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”**. Contest winners will be announced and cash prizes awarded by the Knights of Columbus tomorrow, 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.



The Knights of Columbus and American Red Cross would like to thank all the donors who participated in the blood drive on November 23rd. There were 39 donors. Thank you for helping to save lives and giving of yourselves for this worthy cause.

True Spirit Coalition
Hunger Never Takes a Vacation

1501 West Brigantine Avenue (609)266-7942
 Brigantine, NJ 08203

Donations of the following items would be appreciated.

All items must be new:

Cereal, Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce

Donations can be placed in the designated **food bank boxes** located in the Main Entrance foyer of the church. Your donations will be delivered to the True Spirit Coalition each week. **For more information, please call Eileen Robbins at 610-721-7438.**

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

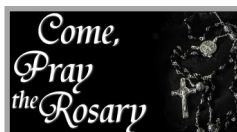
OPEN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

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.*****



Rosary for Peace

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