



# Saint Thomas the Apostle Church

331 8<sup>th</sup> Street So. Brigantine, NJ 08203

[www.stthomasbrigantine.org](http://www.stthomasbrigantine.org)

## 1st Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024

Repent,  
and believe in the  
Gospel



**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. One session of Baptism preparation is required prior to Baptism. Preparation sessions are held on the second Wednesday of the month in the Parish Meeting Room at 7:30pm. Registration required. Call the parish office.

**Religious Education**

Our Religious Education Program is for Grades 1st thru 8th. Grades 1 - 4 attend from 4pm - 5pm and 5 - 8 attend from 6pm - 7pm. Also, we have special programs for adults who would like to become Catholic or complete their sacraments.

**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.

# Mass Intentions

**FOR THE WEEK**



**Saturday**

8:30AM  
4:00PM

**February 17**

JoAnn Marchesani by Carl & Irene Minniti  
Deborah Sinatra by DiGiacomo Family  
Michael Weisbecker by Phyllis & Steve Sheckelton  
Fr. John Franey by Mr. & Mrs. Cesare Rotondi  
Dr. William Hall by Brigantine Neighbors

**Sunday**

8:00AM

**February 18**

Louis Marchesani, Jr. by Anne Grove  
JoAnn Marchesani by Joe Migatz  
Marie Coates by Barbara & Charles Cooper  
Sister Denise Haviland by Marie Faunce & Family

9:30AM  
11:00AM

**Monday**

8:30AM

**February 19**

JoAnn Marchesani by Ralph & Nancy Gattis

**Tuesday**

8:30AM  
6:30PM

**February 20**

Louis Marchesani, Jr. by Rev. Edward Maher  
Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Wednesday**

8:30AM

**February 21**

Baby Camila by Gail & Mike Gallagher

**Thursday**

8:30AM

**February 22**

Carmen Castagna by Wife Carmel & Children

**Friday**

8:30AM

**February 23**

Frank & Catherine Grove by Anne Grove

**Saturday**

8:30AM  
4:00PM

**February 24**

John Musial by Jim Skowronski  
Louis Polzella by Eugene Polzella  
Salvatore Italiano by Wife & Daughters  
Betty & Mickey Sheckleton by Family

**Sunday**

8:00AM  
9:30AM  
11:00AM

**February 25**

William Babcock by Pontillo Family  
Marie Coates by Tim & Gail Phalen  
Nick Stabile by Roger & DoAnn Bernhammer  
Elizabeth Maguire by Maguire Children  
Irene Johnson by Annie & Mark Weichman  
Stacey Schneller by Judy & Chris

**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 SCHEDULE**

**WEEKENDS**

**SAT: 4:00PM**

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

**WEEKDAYS**

**MON. - SAT.: 8:30AM**

**Tues. Evening 6:30PM**

**CONFESSION**

**Saturday: 3PM**  
**or by appointment**  
**Wednesday Evening**  
**7:00 - 7:30PM**

**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**

**BULLETIN EDITOR:**  
**Barb Cawley, ext. 102**  
**bulletin@stabrig.org**  
**DEADLINE- FRIDAY, 10:00AM**



### "What you do after you say you believe"

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." Mark 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a Stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

**Collections for: February 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Offertory: \$8,064.00**

**E-Giving: \$ 2,165.00**

**School: \$ 826.00**

**\$11,055.00**



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



## NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION

**DATE: February 29, 2024 (Thursday)**

**TIME: 7:00pm**

This year we are happy to announce that Msgr. Pashley will be presenting our **Lenten Night of Recollection**. The evening will include exposition and benediction. **Please join us!**

## Prayer Requests



### FOR ALL OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

**Theresa Szczepanski**

Please keep their families in your prayers.

### FOR OUR SICK:

Jim Covert, Celine Powell, Carol Graham, Beth LaSerre, Fran Byers, Zoe Rodriguez, Madeline Harvey, Melanie Hudson, Jerry Kilroy, Cynthia Giordano, Matt Fannon, Logan Seitz, Kristina McDaniel, Aurora Mary Gross, Charlie Arsenault, Diana Certo, Gail Squicciarri, Salvatore Pantalone, Kevin Thurlow, John Bernard, James Ruggiano, Bob Erickson, Thomas Heath, Diane Anderson, Frank DiBona, Gilberta Rocha, LaMarr Gable, Gary Zimmerman, Marilyn Thoresen, Loretta Smith, George Kulczycki, Penny Walton, Brendan Garland, Ronald DiPinto, Brody Pomager, Katrina Yearicks, Diane Kuczynski, Barbara Smaldore, Brian Cavallari, Bill Whalen, Joanne Miller, Asha Freytag, Pat Marziano, Charles Kuczynski, Douglas Boehme, Sr., Colleen Brown, Mary Spence, Robert Moody, Shawna O'Brien Lee, Bob Long, Steve Long, Sally Sooy

### 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, Pvt. Austin Rehill, US Army  
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, USGC,  
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

Jesus spent forty days in the desert after his baptism. The devil tried to tempt him, but Jesus drew on strength from God and the power of the Holy Spirit to resist Satan's advances. We too can call upon God for help in moments of temptation—but as imperfect human beings, there are times we succumb to the temptation to harm ourselves or others. One such example is the rise in pornography use. Many fall victim to the temptations put forth by the sexually explicit content. Think about three action steps you can take if you are feeling tempted by someone or something that is harmful.

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### Ministry Schedule February 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

Mass	Presider	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
<b>SAT. 4:00PM</b>	Fr. Ed	F. Burbridge	F. Streeper, B. DeLucry, J. D'Ascenzo
<b>SUN. 8:00AM</b>	Fr. Bob	L., Camerota	G. Gallagher, B. O'Connor, B. Ferris
<b>SUN. 9:30AM</b>	Fr. Ed	J. Levins	R. Pagoulatos, M. Brindisi, G. Scutti
<b>SUN. 11:00AM</b>	Msgr. Morgan	E. Stafford	Deacon, R. Wilson, T. Tomlin

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

## ***DURING LENT:***

**A MASS** will be celebrated **EVERY TUESDAY EVENING** during Lent at **6:30pm**, (beginning on **February 20**) followed by the Rosary at 7pm.

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard **every Saturday at 3:00pm and Wednesday evening** during Lent from **7:00 - 7:30pm**.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Friday evening at 7:00pm in the Church during Lent.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** will meet **every Wednesday** from **Feb. 14th thru March 27th. at 9:15am** in the **Parish Meeting Room**. **All are welcome to attend as we are always happy to welcome new members.**

### **Lenten Prayer Group February 16<sup>th</sup> thru March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Treat yourself this Lent!** Come explore the Sunday Scriptures in a faith sharing setting amongst fellow parishioners, with similar aspirations of drawing closer to God. Each **Friday during Lent**, we will assemble in the **Parish Meeting Room** (behind the rectory office) from **5:45pm to 7:00pm** to pour over the readings to discover anew their meaning for our lives. Music, meditation and commentary will guide us on our journey. **See you there!**

### ***Lenten Rules & Regulations:***

**Weekdays of Lent:** There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

**Days of Abstinence:** (All Fridays in Lent) All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:** These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59.

**Easter Duty Obligation:** After they have received their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season.



- Feb. 19 No CCD Classes  
Parish Office Closed
- Feb. 20 Mass 6:30pm  
Rosary 7:00pm
- Feb. 21 Scripture Study 9:15am (PMR)
- Feb. 22 4Ever Young 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Feb. 23 Lenten Prayer Group 5:45pm - 7:00pm (PMR)  
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm Church
- Feb. 24 Women's Club Dance 7:00pm
- Feb. 26 CCD Classes 4:00pm - 7:00pm
- Feb. 27 Mass 6:30pm  
Rosary 7:00pm
- Feb. 28 Scripture Study 9:15am (PMR)
- Mar. 01 Lenten Prayer Group 5:45pm - 7:00pm (PMR)  
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm Church
- Mar. 04 CCD Classes 4:00pm - 7:00pm

## **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**



The **annual baby needs drive** will be held from **Sunday, February 11th through Sunday, March 24th** in support of **MOMS in NEED** at the Jersey Shore Women's Center in Galloway. This pregnancy resource center provides support to all women and their families in a loving environment, connecting them to the resources they need.

The center's current needs are Diapers - Size 4-7; Pull Ups - Size 2-3T to 5-6T; Baby Wipes; New Infant & Toddler Clothing - Size 9 months - 5T; Hooded Bath Towels & Washcloths; Crib & Bassinet Sheets; Receiving Blankets; Humidifiers.

Donations can be placed in the Pack n Play located in the front of the church on the parking lot side. For more information on how you can support the Jersey Shore Women's Center or assistance with a donation drop off or pick up, call Brian or Kathy Mulvenna at 609-266-2268.

**Gift Cards** (Target, Walmart, Amazon) are also appreciated and can be **inserted into the labeled drop box next to the pack n play**.



### WEEK 6

2/05/24	475	Terri Roth	\$ 50.00
2/06/24	180	Judy Wall	\$ 50.00
2/07/24	700	Lisa Hak	\$ 50.00
2/08/24	554	Nancy McKeown-Brand	\$ 50.00
2/09/24	297	Pat Donahue	\$ 50.00
2/10/24	429	Joe Cawley	\$ 50.00
2/11/24	626	Robin & Jeff Vitulle	\$ 50.00

***Congratulations to our Week 6 winners!***



### Women's Club

#### **The Cross You Carry – An evening of Reflection March 6, 2024 (Wednesday)**

In this evening of reflection, we will explore how we can let life become its own Lenten discipline, calling us to prayer, sacrifice and generosity through the ordinary experiences of each day.

Our speaker, Krista Baum, will be sharing her story of challenge, determination, courage and hope as she tackled an unexpected cancer diagnosis. She will share the lessons and insights she learned while going through this process that we may be able to apply to “the cross we carry” in our own personal lives.

All women of the parish are welcome to this special event in **St. Philip Hall at 6:00PM**



Dear Eighth Grade Students of Saint Thomas Parish in Brigantine,

On behalf of the Brigantine Knights of Columbus Council #7020, you are cordially invited to participate in our upcoming Council Spelling Bee, which is scheduled to take place as follows.

**Location:** St. Philips Hall at St Thomas Church

**Address:** 331 8<sup>th</sup> Street South, Brigantine, NJ 08203

**Date:** Saturday, March 2, 2024, at 1:00 pm

The top three spellers, (one winning contestant and two alternates) will be invited to compete at the **Camden Diocese Spelling Bee** on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 1:00 pm at Holy Angels Parish Center, 96 Green Ave, Woodbury, NJ 08096.

The winner of the Diocesan Spelling Bee is eligible to participate in the New Jersey State Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. Should the winner be unable to participate, then the Runner-up will participate as an entrant. There will be cash prizes for the winner and runners-up, and other prizes for all participants.

Please submit your name and contact information (Address, Email, Phone) no later than **Thursday, February 29, 2024**, to Grand Knight Dennis Reilly, 610-574-3138, [Dreilly565@gmail.com](mailto:Dreilly565@gmail.com), Trustee Paul Tomlin, 609-992-2129, [paultomlin22@gmail.com](mailto:paultomlin22@gmail.com) or William Amend, 609-513-6391, [amend5@msn.com](mailto:amend5@msn.com).

Thanks in advance. We look forward to your participation in this great event.



### Martha's Helpers

If you are interested in helping our Martha's Helpers Ministry (cleaning the church), please call the Parish Office and leave your name and phone number. Someone will contact you with further information. This ministry cleans our church every other Thursday, so if you have an extra 1 1/2 - 2 hours and looking for something fulfilling to do, please join us. Your help will be greatly appreciated.,





## Explore OUR PREK AND KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM



**JOIN US FOR WELCOME WEDNESDAYS**  
(1/10, 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 2/28)  
**OR SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR!**

**CONTACT US**  
adowney@arcsgalloway.org  
609-652-7134



**PREK3**  
Students are learning the Pledge of Allegiance, recognizing letters, numbers, shapes, colors, capable of writing their names, mastering using safety scissors, prayers, virtues and so much more.

**PREK4**  
Our preschool program is designed to prepare students for Kindergarten and provide the structural foundation for success in years to come. Our preschool curriculum is centered on guiding and developing your child's growth spiritually, socially, emotionally and academically. We encourage independence and strive to build their self-esteem.

**KINDERGARTEN**  
Our Kindergarten is a place where your child will grow as a reader, writer, and problem solver. In Kindergarten your child will be encouraged to become a confident learner and independent student.



Many times seniors and others need help but don't want to ask. **Our St. Dismas Ministry** is ready to help Brigantine Residents who are overwhelmed by financial burdens. Also, we can often set them up with a routine food order from the True Spirit Coalition.

All contacts are in strict confidence. If you know of someone that may need our help, please give them the contact information below or if you would rather, give their name to us and we will handle it very discretely.

**Contact: Eileen Robbins 610-721-7438**

### South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries Garden Permit Program

Spring is almost here, and we are delighted to share great news about our Garden Permit Program! Our annual fee will not increase. Although inflation has affected most areas of our everyday living, we are happy to tell you that the permit fee will not increase this year and has not increased since the program was introduced in 2018! If you chose the Garden Permit Prime Program, the annual fee remains at \$50 and includes an up-graded landscape edging. The standard Garden Permit Program includes a black standard plastic landscape edging for a fee of \$35.

This program, available for most raised headstones, offers you the ability to grow a garden in front of your loved one's memorial, giving it a more personal touch. Plus, the year-long program gives you a cemetery-compliant border and flexibility to individualize your love one's grave. To submit an application for either of these options, please contact your cemetery by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

For a listing of cemetery locations including contact information visit <https://southjerseycatholiccemeteries.org/locations/>

### Important Phone Numbers

**Addictions Healing HELP-LINE: 856-342-4057**

**Catholic Charities Clinical Services: 1-866-862-2166**

**NJ Hotline for Addiction: Dial 211.**

This is an information and referral service that connects you with substance use disorder and support services

**National Suicide Prevention Helpline: 800-273-8255**

**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](http://www.njveteranshelpline.org)  
Sponsored by Rutgers NJ Dept. of Military Affairs

**Diocese of Camden Addiction Hotline:**  
**1-855-5HOPE4U**




## Silent Retreat

Friday, March 1 at 4:00 p.m. to  
Sunday, March 3 at 1:00 p.m.

**What will I do on a retreat? Which is right for me?**

**Private:** Take the time for silence and immerse yourself in prayerful dialogue with God. Spend time in chapel, take walks in a beautiful setting, read scripture, and simply have a conversation with God. Most importantly, take the time to listen for God's voice within you!

**Directed:** All of the above, plus meet daily with a trained spiritual director who can help you plan your prayer time and discern how God is speaking with you! Limited to 10 participants.

**\$200 Private  
\$240 Directed**  
Meals included

**Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center**  
101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
Register by February 23 at [www.VMbytheSea.com](http://www.VMbytheSea.com)  
or call 609-964-7700.