

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

WELCOME TO ALL

Our Parish Family invites all to be active and participating members in every aspect of parish life! Every family moving into the parish is invited to register at the Parish Office. If you change your address, please notify us.

SAINT

JOSEPH
THE WORKER

SAINT

JOHN
NEUMANN

FR. ERIC RAPAGLIA, **Pastor**
frrapaglia@yahoo.com
FR. NEIL A. KELLY, **Parochial Vicar**
FR. MYLES P. MURPHY S. T. L., **Parochial Vicar**
FR. ANTHONY UMEH, **Parochial Vicar**
MRS. VIVIAN FOX, **Coordinator of Religious Education**
MR. CHRISTOPHER VATH, **Director of Music**
MR. ANTHONY PISCOTTANO
MR. JOSEPH FIECHTER **Sports Council Co-Presidents**
MASSES

Saturday Evening:

St. Joseph: 5:00 P.M.

St. Thomas: 6:00 P.M.

Sunday:

St. Joseph: 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 12:00 Noon

St. Thomas: 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M. Italian Mass

11:00 A.M., 1:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M.

ROSARY: Prayed in Church led by the Priest, Every Wednesday at 8:00pm. (Livestreamed to Social Media.)

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS:

On the 2nd Sunday of each month there is a **SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** at 2:30 p.m. in St. Thomas Church.

HOLY DAYS: Due to the variable nature of Holy Days, the schedule of Masses for these special celebrations will be printed in the bulletin prior to the feasts

Weekdays:

St. Joseph: Monday—Saturday 9:00 A.M.

St. Thomas: Monday—Friday 7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M.

Saturday 8:00 A.M.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism is administered on every Sunday of the month at 2:30 P.M. Please call the Parish Office to arrange for the Sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples should make arrangements with a priest at least six months prior to the ceremony. The date of the ceremony should be finalized with the church prior to making any other arrangements.

ANOIDNTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Sick comforts and strengthens the seriously ill and the elderly. It is a help for the living. We should not wait until there is a danger of death. In case of emergency call the Rectory.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK

Regular administration of the Sacraments should be arranged for the homebound by calling the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 4:00—4:45 P.M. at St. Joseph

5:00—5:45 P.M. at St. Thomas

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday 1-4 PM (ST); Tuesday 6-9 PM (ST); Wednesday 1-4 PM (ST)

Thursday 5-8 PM (SJ); Friday 9:30 AM--1:00 PM (SJ)

SAINT PIO HEALING MASS (ST) 3rd Thursday of the Month 7:30 PM (Confession 6:30 PM)

REPARATION TO THE TWO HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY (ST) First Friday of the Month:

7:30PM Confessions; 8:30PM Mass; Benediction 12 Midnight; 12:15 AM Mass

BIBLE GROUP 7:30 PM (Finn Hall) Monday

LEGION OF MARY Meets regularly, Please call the Parish Office for more information.

FRIENDS OF ST. VINCENT 7:00 PM (Finn Hall) 2nd Thursday of the Month

SUPPORT GROUP (Finn Hall) 1st Thursday of the Month 7-9 PM

MENS' CLUB: 8:00 PM 2nd Tuesday of the Month (Finn Hall)

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Saint

Thomas

Only the parish office handles sponsor certificate requests Monday to Friday, 9AM to 5PM. 718-356-0294. To be considered active members of our parish, each family and single adult must be **properly registered** and must **regularly use the weekly donation envelopes at Sunday Mass**. This is the only way the parish can issue a Godparent/Sponsor Certificate (or other letter) declaring that the person named is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. Parishioners must be registered and **must be using the envelopes for at least 6 months before a Sponsor/ Godparent Certificate can be issued**. Besides attending Mass each Sunday and Holy Day, a godparent/sponsor must also be **confirmed Catholic**, and if married, be **married in the Catholic Church**. Cohabitation disqualifies a person from serving as godparent. If your child is approaching a Sacrament for the first time, **please let godparent/sponsor candidates know of this protocol well in advance so that the candidate will have plenty of time to rectify any impediments that would prevent him/her from serving as godparents**.

PARISH OFFICE 718 356-0294 * PARISH OFFICE FAX 718 948-3885 * RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 718-984-1156



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Dr. Wanda Poltawska (née Wojtasik), famous pro-life physician, was a close friend of St. John Paul II since their days in Poland. In an interview that was published as part of a book (Włodzimierz Redzioch, *Stories about John Paul II: Told by His Close Friends and Co-Workers*, 2014) she furnishes us with some moving anecdotes about this beloved pope. She said, “He loved people and never spoke ill of anyone. He admitted to me that as a youth he was terrified by the sentence: *Do not judge and you will not be judged* (Luke 6:37), which left a deep impression on him for the rest of his life.” He once told her of his confidence in prayer: “People do not realize what a powerful weapon prayer is.” He added: “Learn to pray.”

In 1978, she and her family were spending their vacation in the mountains together with Cardinal Wojtyła (the future Pope St. John Paul II). On August 6, during breakfast, he confided to them: “I never dream anything, but last night I dreamed that Paul VI was signaling to me.” Later that morning, John Paul and the Poltawska family learned from the radio about the death of Pope Paul VI. Wojtyła remained with them for two more days. Then he left for Rome to participate in the conclave that elected Pope John Paul I. But in September came the shocking news of the death of the new pope, also. When Wojtyła and Wanda and family met in late September, he told them: “I was hoping to have more time.” While saying goodbye, Wanda asked him: “What name will you choose as pope?” Her husband answered for him: “Obviously: John Paul II.” He, on the other hand did not say a word in answer to the Poltawska prophecy.

How did Dr. Wanda meet the future pope? At the age of seventeen she joined the Polish underground resistance against the Nazi occupiers of her homeland. In February 1941, she was arrested and sent to the terrible Lublin prison. Although mistreated, she named no names of her companions in the resistance. In September 1941, she was transported, together with other Polish women, to the concentration camp in Ravensbrück wherein she became a Kaninchen. This word in German means “rabbit”, but in Ravensbrück it meant a prisoner forced to undergo experimental operations.

Wanda was one of the seventy-four Polish women used as human guinea pigs. They operated on her legs, causing her intense pain. She was on the point of going insane and even considered throwing herself against the electrified barbed wire fence to put an end to her life. She managed to survive until the camp was liberated by Soviet soldiers on April 30, 1945. Wanda was able to return to her home town of Lublin, but the nightmares and the P.T.S.D. was enslaving her to such an extent that whenever someone asked who she was, she would answer almost mechanically: “Number 7709.” That was her prison number.

But then things changed drastically years later when she met a great priest. “One day I went to Saint Mary’s Basilica [in Kraków]. I started to pray, as usual, in front of the large crucifix, when Father Karol Wojtyła entered the church. I had already met him, because he was involved in pastoral assistance to physicians. I watched him kneel down and then go into the confessional. At that point I felt that I had to go to him, as though I were being driven by an interior force. I went to Confession. I still feel the sense of relief and peace that I experienced.” The future Saint began to counsel her and pray for her. Genuine emotional and spiritual healing soon followed, and a friendship was born. In 1962, she discovered that she had cancer. She began to feel ill when Bishop Wojtyła was in Rome for the Second Vatican Council. The bishop was informed of the cancer by means of a telegram sent from her husband, telling Wojtyła that Wanda had been admitted to the hospital. Wojtyła turned to Padre (St.) Pio of Pietrelcina. In a letter he asked the friar with the stigmata to pray for a sick woman, without mentioning her actual name. At that time, Wanda, like all others in Poland, knew nothing about the great mystic from southern Italy. The Communists kept the citizens thoroughly isolated from the West. Only after she was cured did she find out about that letter sent to St. Pio and his miraculous intercession. She said, “I shivered when I learned the contents of it. To tell the truth, my total and inexplicable cure, instead of making me kneel down to thank the Lord, provoked a sort of rebellion within me: I was frightened by God’s power and by the fact that we depend totally upon Him.”

These last words are quite striking, no? Do we ever feel a rebellion in us, and even a fear, because of God’s power? Do we ever feel frightened due to the fact that we depend totally upon Him? If the answer is yes, perhaps we should discuss it with Him? We learn much by praying.

God bless you!
Father Eric



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
16 POPLAR AVENUE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309

Saturday, January 31, 2026

5:00pm(Vigil) John & Angela Lupacchino

Sunday, February 1, 2026

8:00am Michael VanDaley

10:00am Leonardo Bambina-Living

12Noon Giuseppina Urso

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 9:00am People of the Parish

Tuesday: 9:00am Giuseppe Berto

Wednesday: 9:00am William Leonard

Thursday: 9:00am Pepina & Franco LaRocca

Friday: 9:00am Ilse Jaeger

Saturday, February 7, 2026

9:00am Betty Frankewich

5:00pm(Vigil) Annunziata Paccione

Sunday, February 8, 2026

8:00am Michael Van Daley

10:00am Loreti & Ungarelli Family-Living & Deceased

12Noon Christopher Walsh

BAPTISM SEMINAR

SATURDAY, February 28, 2026

Immediately following the 6:00pm Mass at St. Thomas Church there will be a meeting for expectant parents and parents of newborn babies. Parents are expected to be at Mass as well as the meeting. We urge parents to attend before the baby is born. We also urge Godparents to participate by attending this meeting. This is a requirement for all parents prior to the Baptism of their child.

MEMORIALS



Our Bread and Wine this week is offered :

At St. Thomas Church

In Loving Memory of

Haywood Robert Reid

requested by The Foley & Reid Family



FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

Blessing of the Throats

Tuesday, February 3rd is the

Feast of St. Blaise.

Throats will be blessed at all Masses

St. Thomas

7:00am & 8:00am

St. Joseph

9:00am

and

Msgr. Finn Hall 8:30pm after Bible Study

Monday, February 2nd



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH
6123 AMBOY ROAD
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309

Saturday, January 31, 2026

6:00pm(Vigil) Seymour Hionas

Sunday, February 1, 2026

9:00am Silveo & Beatrice Tomao

10:00am(It) Maria & Vito Iacoviello

11:00am Teresa Principe & Teresa Chiappetta

1:00pm Robert Ellis

4:00pm Polish Mass

6:00pm Edward Walsh

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 7:00 am Giuseppe Genna

8:00am Franco & Elvira LaRocca

Tuesday: 7:00am Nino Nuccia Alonzo

8:00am Sylvia G. Bentley

Wednesday: 7:00am Ernest Secchini

8:00am Rose & Mario Maresca

Thursday: 7:00am Gennaro Liquori

8:00am Concetta Bellantoni

Friday: 7:00am Antonia & Nicola DiGioia

8:00am Florence Vassallo

Saturday, February 7, 2026

8:00am Bea & Nick Conti

6:00pm(Vigil) Madeline, Jerry, Michael & Jamie Vitacco

Sunday, February 8, 2026

9:00am Rudolph Corcillo

10:00am(It) Vincenzo & Bellina Demetrio

11:00am Barbara Cannizzaro

1:00pm Marie Garuccio Catalosi

2:30pm Special Needs– Diana Thompson

6:00pm Charles Ferrito

St. Thomas Church was one of seven designated churches in a forthcoming **"Our Lady of Lourdes**

Seven Churches Pilgrimage". Starting with a Mass

at St. Charles on **Saturday, February 7th @ 11am.**

Herewith are the activities to be undertaken:

1st Church: **St. Charles - Holy Mass**

2nd Church: **St. Christopher & St. Margaret Mary – Holy Rosary, Joyful Mystery**

3rd Church: **St. Thomas – Holy Rosary, Luminous Mystery**

4th Church: **Blessed Sacrament – Holy Rosary, Sorrowful Mystery**

5th Church: **St. Rita – Holy Rosary, Glorious Mystery**

6th Church: **St. Roch - Divine Mercy Chaplet and Stations of the Cross**

7th Church: **Sacred Heart - Anticipated Holy Mass.**

SICK & HOMEBOUND

If someone is homebound or in the hospital, please notify us. Arrangements can be easily made for the Sacrament of Anointing. Holy Communion is brought to the sick by the Priests weekly or monthly as requested. Please let us know your needs by calling the parish office.

Ethel Ducey, Joseph A. Pulizotto, Ellen Merli, Louis Amatrudo, Stacey Benvenuto, Gertrude Sokolowsky, John Michael Pasquale, Hope Vosilla, Helen Cole, Kristen Kress, Bobby Salvador, Amanda Marchese, Thomas Marchese, Angelo Cordella, Dominick Aiello, Juliann Bonavita, Isla Albashara, Anthony Pelle, Christina Natale, Andrea Sinisi, Neil DeGennaro, Wesley Devita, Tina Bini, Patricia Conway, Tom Quercia, Linda DiSilvio, Maria Buono, George Marino, Michael Archer, Michael Rokicki, Renee Bavero.

In your sympathy, please pray for: Jimmy Conti, Marie Burzumato and Diana M. Thompson.

OUR REMEMBRANCE VIGIL CANDLES

will burn for 1 year in St. Thomas Church for:

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
PATRICK BUONOMO
WE LOVE YOU, WE MISS YOU
"ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS"
LOVE, GERTRUDE, CHILDREN &
GRANDCHILDREN
requested by Gertrude Buonomo

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ROSE FERRUGIO
requested by Danielle Colletti

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
BENJAMIN & EMMANUELA CABILAO
"YOU WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED"
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Tess Millares

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
OUR PARENTS
SOPHIE & PETER, SR. FIORELLA
&
OUR BROTHER, WILLIAM FIORELLA
"YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS"
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Jane Novello

SACRED HEART REMEMBRANCE VIGIL CANDLES

will burn for 1 year in St. Thomas Church :

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
KAREN M. RUTHERFORD
"A LIFE THAT TOUCHES OTHERS
GOES ON FOREVER"
requested by Stacy McGroarty

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JOHN DeCAPIO
"WE WILL LOVE YOU FOREVER"
BELOVED BROTHER, GODFATHER & UNCLE
FOREVER MISSED
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Regina DeCapio

SPECIAL NEEDS
FOR
SPECIAL CHILDREN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026
ST. THOMAS CHURCH
2:30PM

The Parish of St. Joseph-St. Thomas St. John Neumann-
welcomes all special people with their
families and friends!

All children will receive a Special Blessing!

For more information:

Call 718-984-1156

or

email: sjstchildofGod@gmail.com

St. Thomas is  Accessible

A Special Thank You!

The Franciscan Handmaids of Mary wish to thank all the parishioners who contribute to their St. Edward Food Pantry throughout the year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! We also would like to thank the Friends of St. Vincent who made the holidays more pleasant for the families we serve. Your ongoing support truly lifts our spirits and warms our hearts! God bless you all!



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