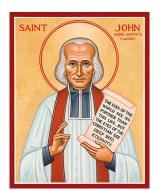
The Parish Communities of:

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY & SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

"Come now, my soul, if you work with God, it is you who will work, but God will bless vour work. You will walk. but God will bless your steps."

- Saint John Vianney





"Take your finger and examine my hands." Thomas said in response: "My Lord and My God."

- John 20:28

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time~ February 20, 2022

Rev. Benjamin J. WilliamsPastor	Liturgy Cohodulo
frben@ststhomasjohn.org	Liturgy Schedule
Rev. Dawid ZajeckiParochial Vicar	- Weekends -
frdawid@ststhomasjohn.org	
Pay Matthew I Twiggs Paster Emeritus	St. John Vianney
Rev. Matthew J. TwiggsPastor Emeritus	Saturday 5:00 p.m.
matthewtwiggs48@gmail.com	Sunday10:00 a.m.
Rev. Msgr. John E. FitzpatrickPastor Emeritus	
James Cammarano Deacon	St. Thomas
	Saturday 5:00 p.m.
jim.cammarano@yahoo.com	Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Kevin CombsDeacon	3.00 d.iii. Q 11.00 d.iii.
dkevinlee@yahoo.com	- Weekdays -
Terry GuarinoOffice Manager	St. Thomas
terry@ststhomasjohn.org	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Monday 7:30 p.m.
Eric M. Stroud, PhDDirector of Music STA	Tuesday-Friday8:00 a.m.
eric@ststhomasjohn.org	Monday6:30 p.m. Holy Hour
Neil Perrotta Director of Music SJV	Eucharistic Adoration 1st & 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m.
cp23amb@warwick.net	
op_oaoc	First Friday Eucharistic Adoration right at the end of Mass
Alyssa Carolan Religious Education / Youth Minister	
alyssa@ststhomasjohn.org	
Gerry Geary R.C.I.A. Coordinator	noll come
gerry@ststhomasjohn.org	

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Phone----- 973-697-6550

Email-----terry@ststhomasjohn.org

Music Ministry----- 973-764-6617

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

5635 Berkshire Valley Road, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

Phone -----973-208-0090 Email -----terry@ststhomasjohn.org **Religious Education-----973-208-0096** Music Ministry -----973-208-0094

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORIDNARY TIME 20 FEBRUARY 2022



Pastor's Corner Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 February 2022

"You had heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your

Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:43-44). [1]

The above teaching by Jesus Christ is a perfect example of why He is called "counter-cultural," and the fact that His disciples are called to be just as "counter-cultural!" This world calls upon us to seek revenge for being wronged, and to "get even" with those who hurt or harm us in any way. God, Who is the very manifestation of love itself, calls upon His disciples, His followers, to emulate – to witness to – that very same agape love! This is most definitely one of the toughest things that Christians are commanded to do by the Lord. It is easy to seek revenge. It is very worldly to do so. However, to seek to forgive someone who has really hurt us is truly saintly, and not of this world at all!

In the Gospel of St. Matthew, we read, "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist one who is evil. But if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:38-39). [2] Now, to be perfectly clear, there are indeed times in which one has to stand up for oneself and one's family, especially when our family members are being threatened with violence or some form of harm. However, under normal circumstances, that are not life-threatening, we should seek peaceful resolutions and reconciliation – in a word, <u>love</u> – instead of using confrontation and a belligerent attitude as a means to a solution for a dispute or problem. This is very counter-cultural, shocking and controversial indeed! Christ's teachings fly directly in the face of the attitudes taught by this world!

Recall that in 2016 we celebrated the <u>Year of Mercy</u> in the Catholic Church. As Christians, we are supposed to witness to God's <u>love</u> in this world, and to bear the image of <u>His mercy</u> as well. In today's Gospel passage from St. Luke, we learn that David showed an abundance of mercy to King Saul who sought an opportunity to kill David. Then, in an unforeseen turn of events, the Lord delivered King Saul into David's grasp while they were both in a cave. David could have easily killed King Saul, but he refused to do so! Thus, David showed mercy to an enemy who was trying his best to kill him! King Saul then realized the error of his ways, and was allowed an opportunity for a complete change of heart!

Does the above scenario sound far-fetched? How many times have <u>we</u> appeared before God, both sinful and sorrowful, asking Him to have mercy on us for the forgiveness of <u>our</u> sins? I do not believe that I am incorrect in saying that the vast majority of us have been to Confession multiple times seeking God's mercy and forgiveness! I will close this homily with another Sacred Scripture passage. In the Gospel of St. Matthew, we read, "So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart" (Matthew 18:35). [3] This is the end of the Gospel passage that spoke about the wicked servant who was shown great mercy by his master who forgave him a huge debt (practically impossible to repay) who, in turn, showed no mercy at all to a fellow servant who owed him only a fraction of what he himself had owed his merciful master. There is a stern warning at the end of this Gospel passage! I personally try to heed the teachings contained in this passage lest I myself receive a dose of my own medicine in front of the pearly gates! That would be most unfortunate indeed! Be well and God bless.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Ben

[1] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 5. [2] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 5. [3] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 19.

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Monday, February 21

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SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORIDNARY TIME 20 FEBRUARY 2022

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORIDNARY TIME 2022 13 FEBRUARY 2022

Envelopes: \$838.00

Loose Checks: \$175.00 Loose Cash: \$101.00

Online Giving: \$675.00

TOTAL: \$1,789.00

Last Year \$1,982.00 - 6th Sunday in OT

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2022

13 FEBRUARY 2022

Envelopes: \$2,797.00

Loose Checks: \$1,340.00

Loose Cash: \$269.00

Online Giving: \$2,275.00

TOTAL: \$6,681.00

Last Year: \$6,002.00 - 6th Sunday in OT



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

5:00PM

SJV + Eugene Reidy / Cox Family

STA + James "Jim" Gleeson / Deacon Jim & MaryLou Cammarano

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

SJV

10:00AM + Louise & Pawel / Fran & Frank Bagnati

STA

9:00AM + Lester Kurylo / Lemendola Family

11:00AM + Karen Macaluso Hickey / Teresa Mosca Mola & Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:30PM EUCHARISITC ADORATION

7:30PM Friends & Family of the Cokinos & Sullivan Family / Nick & Kathy Cokinos

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

8:00AM + Lee / Jill Bonfiglio

7:00PM Rosary

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8:00AM + Barbara Pacca / Donnalee Bariles

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

8:00AM + Evelyn Murphy / Zignorski Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8:00AM + James Froeber / Fred & Dot McMenamin

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

5:00PM

SJV + Anton Hoefferle / Cox Family

STA + Rebecca Ruiz Ulloa / her husband Luis 1 year

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

SJV

10:00AM + Barry Tillman / Bubniak Family

STA

9:00AM + Joseph Kaiser / wife Anne Kaiser

11:00AM + Angelo Cianci / his wife Louise

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

When you give someone a blessed prayer shawl, small blanket or prayer square, you are telling them in a loving way that you care about them. These gifts can be given to someone who is sick, someone getting married or having a child, or even for a student going off to college and more! There is no charge;

however, donations are always welcome.

To request a shawl, small blanket or prayer square, complete the form in the Narthex and place back into basket or send an email to prayershawlstasjv@gmail.com

If you wish to join our ministry, we meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at St. Thomas



READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17; Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Jas 5:9-12; Mk 10:1-12

Saturday; Jas 5:13-20; Mk 10:13-16



THE PARISH COMMUNITIES OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



Each year, the Polar Bear Plunge at Seaside challenges thousands of brave jumpers from around the state. It's a great way for everyone--individuals, teams, organizations and businesses--to get involved supporting Special Olympics New Jersey.

All funds raised go towards programming and events for thousands of Special Olympics athletes statewide.

We are supporting MARYANNE CUERVO and NICOLE CUERVO,

parishioners,

THEY ARE TAKING THE PLUNGE!

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY

is Feb. 26th, 2022, in Seaside Heights, NJ.

The Knights of Columbus are proud to partner with Special Olympics New Jersey in their endeavor to assist the athletes that train all year and will compete in the Special Olympics in June.



worthwhile cause, the money they raise will help their team, the New Jersey Knights of Columbus Polar Penguins, reach or hopefully surpass their goal of \$75,000. The Knights would like to surpass that number this year, as we have reached our goal every year, excluding 2 years, 2012 (Superstorm Sandy) and 2020 (Covid 19).

To support Nicole and Maryanne it can be done in either of 2 ways:



1 - Donate online: https://support.sonj.org/give/351601/#!/donation/checkout

When filling out the form please make sure you scroll down and fill in the box that asks "Would you like to credit this donation to a specific fundraiser or team?" enter Maryanne Cuervo or Ni-

cole Cuervo and make a donation on their page.

Donating through the website is fast, easy and secure. If you prefer to mail a check, you can download a Donation Form https://gr6ci3lg8xce18qb38aqeb7d-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2018/09/Seaside-Website-Donation-Form-2018.pdf

The New Jersey Knights of Columbus Polar Penguins would like to thank those that have donated in the past and we hope you will consider donating to our team again, as we strive to make the lives of these athletes, and their families, easier. I, personally, would like to thank all of our supporters and the team members that brave the chilly waters of the Atlantic Ocean every February. - Vito Addotta, Joseph F. Lamb Council #3350 Grand Knight



THE PARISH COMMUNITIES OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



"TO EVERYTHING THERE Is a season" A time to be healed

<u>Prayers for the sick:</u> Kathy Brennen, Kevin Wickert, Fumiko Lutz, Patricia Carapola, Courtney Sanchelli, Gail Brennan, Rich Day, Richard Lavelle, Marion Coleson, Chris

Osborne, Stephen Vecchiotti, Vincent Ottani, Penny Sorokach (nursing home), Darlene Kolakovic, Don King, Kenny Miscisak, Emily Fleming, Emily Schmidt, Mary Swerzenski (nursing home), Jessica Taylor, Tim Lambert, Nancy, Sebastian Drelick, Bill Horowitz, Frank Weber, Carole DeCepoli, Bert DeLuca, Maryellen Leppard, Kelly Cokinos Fleming, Sophia Brandt, Aurora Sangalang, Shaelynn Todd, Hazel, Andrea W, Elaine M., Joseph, Dominick Restuccia, Tony Cabrera, William Osbun, James Mullen Jr., Patty Mullen, Joey Dyl and Helen Wyso.

A TIME TO MOURN

Prayers for the deceased: Rosemary McHugh, Patrick P. Marttine, John Koslowski, Kathleen Peterson, Matthew (Matt) Rugel, Ralph Agovino, George Damerel, Claire Fitzgerald, Cheryl Miskimon, Joseph Minardi, Theresa Pachucki, Brendan Michael Dolaghan, Robert Neubig, William Osbun Sr., Molly DeLanoy, Bob Pacca, Frank Galtieri, Anne Marie Bottazzi, Will Barone, Tony Bonfiglio, Bernadette Johnson, Angelo Cianci Rebeca Ruiz-Ulloa, Joseph Racke, Dr. Ed Fetter, Major Stanley Sciora (ret.) Heaven Davenport, MaryAnn Reinhardt and Thomas Fennell, Harold Hakans Vincent James (Jim) Fiorito, Dennis Romanelli, George & Mary Dick, Tom Kieren, Betty Sisson, Ethan Rodrigues, Carol Bentze, Joan Taran, Gustavo Gonzalez, Geraldine Karas, Vicky Gilliatt, Dan Sorokach, Rose Kelly and Patricia Donza, Jim Gleeson, Jim Smath, Henry Boonstra, Andrea W., Jack Kelly, Uncle Marcin, Edward Wynne, Elford Jennings, Edward Smilek, Grace Batelli, Thomas Hanston and Stan Sisson.

A TIME FOR PEACE

<u>We pray for those in our parish who are currently serving in the armed forces especially:</u> Sgt. Jonathan Cuervo, USMC, PFC Anthony Imperato, USMC, Cpl Sebastian Geary, USMC, Sgt. Antoino Lettizia, USMC, OSSN(SW) Anthony S. Gambuti, US Navy, Lance Cpl Ryan Leyden, USMC, USAF Airman Matthew Cannarozzi, 2nd Lt. Andrew Verdes, Haley Kerrison Lt1, Army, 2nd Lt. Clara Fetter, USMC, USAF Airman Andrew Babich, Chaplin Major Jhon Madrid and Airman Gianna Perez, USAF

In honor of the Military serving our country at home and abroad, we invite you to recite three (3) Hail Mary's for their safety.

We also pray for the family and friends of those listed above.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held at both parishes. If you are a first time parents you must attend a Baptism Preparation class.



Please contact the Parish Office: terry@ststhomasjohn.org for more information.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 4:00pm-4:45pm



MARRIAGES

Prior to your booking of the reception, please call the Parish Office 1 year in advance of the wedding date to allow for proper pre-marital preparation.

Knights of Columbus ~ Council Meetings

St. John Vianney Council #12649 meets at Saint John Vianney Church Hall the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

<u>Joseph Lamb Council #5510</u> meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at St. Thomas the Apostle. Both meetings start at 7:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Saint John Vianney/Saint Thomas the Apostle Please contact: alyssa@ststhomasjohn.org 973-208-0096

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: A parishioner is one who belongs to the parish family. As such, he/she is registered and is committed through participation in the life of the parish. Marriages to be administered and Sponsor Certificates, recommendations, etc. to be issued by the office, the person requesting such must be registered and an active member of Saint John Vianney Parish or Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish community. We request that you register at the rectory when you move into our community so that we may be of service to you.

"If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office and Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNeil at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers Rev. Msgr. T. Mark Condon JCD, Vicar General and Moderator of the curia, 973-777-8818 Ext. 248 or Sister Joan Daniel Healy, SSC, Chancellor / Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 Ext. 247. The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available diocesan Web the site: www.patersondiocese.org.



Beginning May 4, 2022, New Jersey businesses may not sell or provide singleuse plastic carryout bags to their customers. In light of this new law we are ask-

ing you to bring your pantry donations in reusable bags so that they may be given to our Catholic Charities clients to use. - Thank you.



Catholic Charities **HOPE HOUSE** is asking for

Cereal ♥ Paper Products ♥ Oatmeal ♥ Pancake Mix

♥ Small Juice boxes ♥ Personal Hygiene Products

We are asking anyone the to do so. Any donation of any kind is always gratering, welcomed. Donations can be dropped off when you come to Mass at St. Thomas or during the week at the STA Rectory Door under the overhang. You do not have to ring the includes the front door is checked throughout the day. The food doesn't stay there for long!

Catholic Charities Community Service

MEALS ON WHEELS, 48 Wyker Road, Franklin, NJ

Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm



We are need of the following items for the Food Pantry: Creamed Corn ● Beets ● Spinach ● Sauerkraut • Carrots ● Canned Beef Stew ● Canned Fruit ● Canned Tomatoes. ● Toothpaste ● Dental Floss ● Tooth brushes ● Adult Incontinence Underwear

Underwear

DID YOU KNOW? Studies show senior citizens with pets suffer less from depression and with COVID isolation more and more seniors are suffering with depression, require fewer doctors' visits, and have lower blood pressure than those without animal companions. We are in need of dog and cat food.

> CT Moms and Catholic Charities Community Services are holding their first Diaper Drive: Any size, pull ups, wipes and diaper ointments.

Donated items can be dropped off at Saint John Vianney on Saturdays 4:30PM - 5:15PM and Sundays 9:45am - 10:15am OR you can drop your donations off at the Food Pantry in Franklin, Monday, Thursday and Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm.

> HELP! Volunteers needed to deliver meals in Vernon-Hamburg and Sussex. Please help, if interested, please call 973-209-0123

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