Dear Parish Family: One might think that the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is too remote, too special, too holy to be an effective model for our families. But just like our families, they enjoyed times of great joy but also suffered through terrible hardships. The delight of a newborn baby was accompanied by the fear that led them to flee a foreign land. Today let us pray that the faith and love shown by the Holy Family may sustain us through both our joys and our struggles.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Is there someone I know who is vulnerable because they have no family to rely on? What can I do for them.

REUNIONS OF THE HEART support group for families dealing with issues of estrangement— Thursdays 7pm-8:30pm, January 9– March 12, 2020 in the classrooms at Saint Thomas the Apostle.

Presented by Janet Pfeiffer, Pres, CEO, Pfeiffer Power Seminars, LLC
Motivational speaker, trainer
Globally syndicated radio host: Anger 911, Between You and God
Award-winning author
The Secret Side of Anger, The Great Truth - endorsed by NY Times best-selling author, Dr. Bernie Siegel

Flocknote Updates: ENRICHMENT: the 14-day prayer challenge starts January 1st, just in time to help out with a New Year’s resolution! Make sure you’re a member of the Enrichment group in order to receive these emails.

ST. JOHN VIANNEY – MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28
5:00 PM + Ralph Benicasa, Jr.
/ Joan & Rich Hotchkiss

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29
8:00AM + Christopher Hirsch / his family
10:00AM + Kathleen Kotski/ Bubniak Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1
10:00AM Parish family of Saint John Vianney

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4
5:00 PM + Dorothy Guadango
/ Linda & Frank Belmont

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
8:00AM + James Gieniec
Moran & Mihalio Families
10:00AM + Frederick H. Grehl
Bernadette & Michael Halczli

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE – MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28
5:00PM: + Joe Endlicher/ Sparta Stop & Shop

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29
9:00AM + Nereida Addotta / Debbie & Joe Wickham
11:00AM + Christopher Ashman / Ashman Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30
7:30PM: Gervase Castner / Pat and Tom Barrett

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
8:00AM Peggy Zajdel / The Zajdel Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1
10:00AM Parish family of Saint Thomas the Apostle
/ Jean & Eric Stroud

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2
8:00AM + Peggy Zajdel / The Zajdel Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3
8:00AM + Alice Ann Godchild / Mark & Hedy Massenzio

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4
5:00PM: + Peggy Zajdel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
9:00AM + Vincent Ricci / Dzanis Family
11:00AM + James Ford / Joe & Bernadette Subarton
The Parish Community of St. John Vianney & St. Thomas the Apostle

**SPRITUAL LIFE MINISTRY:**

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Adoration is a time of silent reflection and prayer. It is a time to commune with God, emptying all worries and anxiety out of your heart, body, mind and soul. We invite you to join us at Saint Thomas the Apostle every 1st & 3rd Monday, 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM.

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** Every Tuesday evening 7:00 PM at Saint Thomas the Apostle Chapel.

**HELPING HANDS:** is a combined parish community service group. If you are in need of any type of help, or if you know someone who needs help, please contact Gabrielle Dyl at 973-713-0280.

Anyone requesting a prayer shawl should fill out a form in the lobby of STA/SJV and leave the completed form in the basket. We will contact you with a time to pick up your shawl. For immediate need, please call Gabby Dyl at 973-713-0280. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets at STA at 7:30 pm the first Thursday of the month. Next meeting: **Thursday, January 2.** For more information call Renee Ferre-ri: 518-321-5236.

**HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

“Because we are God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another: forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.”

As we conclude the calendar, praying for our family, we look to the family of Nazareth as a model. Surely they were tried by travel, poverty, oppressive government edicts, forced to take part in a census, flee a treacherous dictator, but united in the presence of the Christ.

Paul’s teaching allows us to take stock of our own home and family life.

Each virtue he names is like a different room in our home, or steps we ascend daily. If one is missing we can look for it as we begin a new year.

May we ‘dedicate ourselves to thankfulness’; for all the blessings given our family this year and seek His blessings as we turn the page to 2020.

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**Readings for the Week**

**Monday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40  
**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18  
**Wednesday:** Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28  
**First Friday:** 1 Jn 2:29–3:6; Jn 1:29-34  
**First Saturday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
"TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON"

A TIME TO BE PEACE

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

A TIME TO BE HEALED

A TIME TO MOURN
SAINT JOHN VIANNEY
12/15/2019: $3,614.00 Third Sunday of Advent

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  12/22/2019

No information at time of submission

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
12/15/2019: $5,925.50 Third Sunday of Advent

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  12/22/2019

No information at time of submission

Saint John Vianney and Saint Thomas the Apostle

NEW YEAR’S Day
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
January 1, 2020: 9:00 a.m.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
January 1, 2020

The world day of prayer for peace is an ecumenical movement by Christian women who joined together to pray on a common day each year, year after year. This has become global and is celebrated in more than 170 countries. This is also regarded as a movement to bring together all the women of the world of various races, cultures, and traditions to promote fellowship among each other.

Messages World Day of Prayer for Peace
I pray to almighty that all the people of all nations have a peaceful life. Let’s pray for compassion for all the people around us, and spread the spirit of brotherhood.
Let’s embrace all those who are suffering from poverty, disease and other environmental hazards and pray the Lord that he relieves them from all these issues.
On this day, remember to be kind to elders, compassionate with your fellows and gentle with children. Live a peaceful life. Happy World Day of prayer for peace.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow . . . .

FEED THE WORKING POOR

All parishioners at STA and SJV are again invited to help feed the working poor by cooking and freezing a tray of food to feed a family of four. Trays and instructions will be available after all Masses the weekend of November 2/3. Please return your frozen tray at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 9. Trays may be dropped off in front of STA or in front of SJV Church, not Madonna Hall. Please be on time when dropping off your tray, as volunteers at the Fr. English Center will be awaiting our arrival with the trays.

Parish office hours for next week:
Monday, December 30: 9am –4pm, Tuesday, December 31: 9:00—3pm
Wednesday, January 1: Closed
HAPPY NEW YEAR,
Thursday & Friday: 9am-4pm