St. Thomas the Apostle
Roman Catholic Church

Rectory/Parish Center: (973) 338-9190 • Fax: (973) 338-4224 • Religious Education: (973) 338-7400
School: (973) 338-8505 • School website: www.staschoolnj.org
Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 • Website: www.stachurchbloomfield.org
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church @stachurchbloomfield STA BloomfieldNJ

Parish Center Summer Hours: Mon., Tues., & Thurs. 9am-4pm • Wednesday 10am-4pm • Fri. 9am-1pm • Sat. & Sun CLOSED

Rev. Lawrence J. Fama, Pastor
Rev. Charles J. Miller, Pastor Emeritus
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lukasz Rokita

Permanent Deacons
Deacon Thomas J. Coyle (Retired)
Deacon Brian J. Murphy
Deacon Michael Pasquale

Sacrament of Reconciliation
(Penance/Confessions)
Saturday: 1:00pm *or by appointment*

Marian Devotions
Rosary before daily Mass
Angelus after daily Mass
Novena Prayer at 11:30am
Mass on Mondays

Liturgy of the Word With Children
Pre K - 3rd Grade
Sundays: 10:00am Mass
September - June

Godly Goods Parish Gift Shop
Saturdays 4:30-6pm, Sundays 8:30am-1pm,
First Fridays after 11:30am Mass
giftshop@stachurchbloomfield.org

Eucharistic Liturgy
Saturday Eve: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00am, and 12:00 Noon

Weekdays: M-F 11:30am
First Saturday: 8:30am
Holy Days:
See the bulletin for update
Holidays: 9:00am

Pastoral Associate for Elementary Catechetics
Tracey Hann

School Principal
Ellen Naughton

Director of Liturgical Music Ministries
Dr. Patricio Molina

Associate Director of Music Ministry
Kimberley Mesiti

Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Francesca Leite

Trustees
Ann Marie Rogalcheck-Frissell
James McKittrick

Catholic Community Services Offering Social Service Assistance
(800) CCS-7413 or Fax: 596-3735

August 16, 2026 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
God's Work, Our Hands Since 1939

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, August 15th -Twentieth Sunday in O. T.
Readings: Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
5:00pm - Hoyt Peavy

Sunday, August 16th - Twentieth Sunday in O. T.
8:00am - Nicholas Liozzi, Sr.
10:00am - Paul T. DiCicco
12:00pm - Asuncion A. Flores

Monday, August 17th - Weekday
Readings: Ez 24:15-23/Mt 19:16-22
11:30am - Rose Wesner

Tuesday, August 18th - Weekday
Readings: Ez 28:1-10/Mt 19:23-30
11:30am - Mark Peavy

Wednesday, August 19th - Weekday, *St. John Eudes, Priest*
Readings: Ez 34:1-11/Mt 20:1-16
11:30am - Rose Wesner

Thursday, August 20th - St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor
Readings: Ez 36:23-28/Mt 22:1-14
11:30am - Mark Peavy

Friday, August 21st - Pope St. Pius X
Readings: Ez 37:1-14/Mt 22:34-40
11:30am - Robert J. Reilly, III

Saturday, August 22nd - Twenty-First Sunday in O. T.
Readings: Is 22:19-23/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
5:00pm - Rose Wesner

Sunday, August 23rd - Twenty-First Sunday in O. T.
8:00am - People of the Parish
10:00am - Charles Graham
12:00pm - John Mescall

REST IN PEACE

Christine Jamolawicz
Volney Leite
Fred Menzel
Dr. Joseph Territo

MEMORIAL CANDLES

Blessed Mother: Pauline Cooney

BREAD AND WINE

Hoyt & Mark Peavy

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE MISSION STATEMENT

The Roman Catholic faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle recognizes God's call to be a sign of His Kingdom in the communities we serve. We respond to this call by:

- Leading people to a deeper relationship with Christ by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, renewal, education, the celebration of the Sacraments, and worship of God in the sacred liturgy.
- Encouraging a commitment to justice and to service of those in need.
- Promoting good stewardship of our time, talent, and treasure.
- Building a community of hospitality and support in the daily living out of Christian ideals by nourishing mutual respect and understanding within our Church, our families, our community, and other faith traditions.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS - For those who require (for a medical issue) low-gluten hosts, please notify the priest or deacon at least **15 min. before Mass begins**. He will instruct you as to the format to receive. Remember, too, that low-gluten hosts must contain enough gluten for them to be constituted as "wheat", which is essential to the Sacrament. Hosts that are gluten-free are invalid matter for Consecration.

NEW TO OUR PARISH? WELCOME!!

New Parishioners are requested to register in the parish as soon as possible. We want to get to know you, and include you in our St. Thomas the Apostle family. Please contact us with your Name, mailing address, phone number and email, so that we can begin a relationship with you and your family. Please notify us of changes in address or phone number, so we can reach out and check in on you and your loved ones. We also remind you to let us know if you have an address change, or are moving out of the parish.This helps us keep our records in order, and our STA family closer and connected.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK*

Elizabeth Albright, Deacon Aldo Antola,
Eileen Bejasa, John Bergamini, Gail Bretz,
Roberto Cabrera, Francis Costenbader,
Blanca DelRio-Munoz, Mario Di Masi,
Deacon Tom Coyle, Ann Marie Coyle,
Karen DuPont, Robert Estelle, Mark Gentilucci,
Samantha Giampaga, Matthew Guagliardo,
Maya Hilario, Frank Ietto, Bill Jones,
Colin Jones, Allison Killeen, Andrea Kluepfel,
Ralph Laurenzo, John Meehan,
Joseph Meeker, Baby Bradley Miller,
Cecilia Nicholson, Vito Palagano,
Cindy & Jon Perdue,
Baby Arwa Rodriguez, Nancy Salerno,
Nick Salerno,
Baby Rory Richard Seideman,
Raphael Villeda, Jennie Weber

*Names will remain on the sick list for 4 weeks unless family calls

EVENTS

Aug 29&30 Blessing of Expectant Couples/Families
Sept. 13 Parish Picnic & Disney Raffle
Oct. 4 Rosary Communion Breakfast
Oct. 17 Confirmation
Oct. 18 HNS – Eucharistic Adoration Program
Oct. 24 Anointing of the Sick Mass
Dec 18 Simbang Gabi
Jan 24 Mass for Acolyte/Diaconate Formation
Feb 6. First Reconciliation
Feb 13 Morning of Reflection

DON'T FORGET US WHILE AWAY!

Between demanding schedules, traveling, heading to the shore or out on vacation or just trying to get out the door on time for Mass, it can be challenging to tithe on a regular basis as God calls us to do. Plus, for many families, the parish is one of the last places where you still have to use a checkbook or cash.
St. Thomas has online giving for families to easily give one-time as well as recurring gifts or tithe!
Simply make a secure donation via electronic check or debit/credit card by visiting:
www.stachurchbloomfield.com to set up recurring gifts or tithe. It's as easy as online shopping or banking.
Learn more and consider the possibilities for sharing your gifts without the hassle of remembering checks and envelopes. Visit: www.stachurchbloomfield.com.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Making a donation could not be easier.
A QR code is now available at the doors of the church for texting donations to St. Thomas the Apostle. See the bulletin board near the doors. The phone number for texting your donation is: 855-945-4036

SIGN UP FOR PARISH EMAILS

To stay informed on parish closures, etc.

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT COUPLES/FAMILIES

Join our community in celebrating and praying for the gift of life. On the weekend of August 29-30 at all of our Masses, our parish will offer a special Blessing of the Child in the Womb for expectant mothers and fathers. This blessing imparts grace, sustains parents, and unites our parish in prayer. We will also pray for couples hoping for the gift of a child. All expecting couples are warmly invited to attend.

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward".
- Psalm 127:3

WEEK ENDING 8/9

Collection Goals	
2026-2027 Yearly	$ 875,000
2026-2027 Weekly Goal	$ 17,157
Total Collection 8/9/2026	$ 16,704
Collection	$ 12,116
Online Giving	$ 4,588
Collection Analysis	
Amount under goal last week	$ 453

MEMORIAL GUILD

Here at St Thomas the Apostle Church, we have established a Memorial Guild. This is a beautiful way for your loved one to be remembered. Through this Memorial Guild friends and family can donate in memory of your loved one. The money donated to the Memorial Guild is used for many projects here at St. Thomas, in order to preserve the beauty of our Church for generations to come. Your loved one will be prayed for by our clergy and will be remembered in a special Memorial Mass that year. If you are considering "in lieu of flowers" this is a wonderful way to continue your loved one's memory.
Envelopes are available at the Funeral Home and at our Parish Center. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Parish Center at 973-338-9190. God Bless.

YOU - YES, YOU ARE INVITED!!!

Bringing up the gifts at the Offertory is a deeply symbolic act where you represent the congregation by presenting the bread, wine, and monetary offerings. It requires no formal training, and you can volunteer by speaking with an usher just before Mass begins. This beautiful tradition dates back to the early Church, symbolizing that we are offering the fruits of our own labor and our very selves to God, to be transformed into the Eucharist.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

As a parish family we pray for all of our parishioners who are serving in the military.
Almighty God, we stand before You,
Asking for Your divine mercy and protection.
Embrace with Your invincible armor
Our loved ones in all branches of the service.
Give them courage and strength against all enemies,
Both spiritual and physical and hasten their safe journey back to their homes and families. Amen.

THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING

Michael Latorre
Gian Carlo De Nieva
Stephen John Ciccone

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE DISNEY RAFFLE!

The Church of St. Thomas the Apostle is holding a merchandise raffle which will be drawn at our Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 13, 2026 from 3 to 3:30pm.

First Prize: Trip to Florida Disney for four (4) includes:

- **4 night hotel stay**
- **$1,200 airfare credit**
- **4 theme park passes**

Second Prize: $3,000 gift card
Third Prize: $1,000 gift card

The remainder of the proceeds go to benefit general and education costs of the parish.

Envelopes were mailed on 7/17. If your tickets did not arrive in the mail ask one of the clergy at Mass for a book from the sacristy or stop in at the parish center and pick up a book.

OCIA is the CATHOLIC PATH to CONVERSION

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." - John 14:6

Are you Baptized, Confirmed, received First Holy Communion? Come and join us for full initiation into the Catholic Church. 2026 OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation) starts Sunday, October 4 at 9 AM in the Parish Center. Contact us at: ocia@stachurchbloomfield.org or call Frank Miller at 201-207-0200

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE COMMUNION BREAKFAST

All parishioners are invited to the St. Thomas the Apostle Communion Breakfast sponsored by the Rosary Society.

When: Sunday, October 4, 2026 following 8 AM Mass
Where: Herron Hall
What: Catered by Bloomfield Best Bagels,
Celebrant and Guest Speaker, Father James Manos
Cost: $25.00 per person
Checks made payable to:
St. Thomas Rosary Society

****

Reservation Form (due by September 21, 2026)

Name:_____
Phone Number:_____
We would like to sit with:_____
(We will do our best to accommodate your request)

Tables are limited to 8 attendees. If you would like to reserve a table for 8, Please submit all reservations together. Reservations may be dropped off at the Parish Center or placed in the collection basket at Mass -marked "Communion Breakfast". Reservations must be paid in advance. No money will be accepted at the door. Any questions please contact:
Rosemary at (973) 699-4998
Or email at: rosarysociety@stachurchbloomfield.org

AIR CONDITIONING UPDATE

Hello again Parish Friends and Family,

We're still awaiting the exact delivery date for the new AC unit, but the latest word from our new on-site liaison at Donnelly Electric, Angel Barretto, is that we are on track still, for late August.

Once the engineers give us the confirmed delivery date, demolition will begin, followed by some preliminary wiring and construction to get everything ready on our end.

Thank you all for your patience, good humor, and understanding as we continue moving forward. We are committed to keeping everyone informed every step of the way, and we appreciate how graciously you've all handled the summer heat while we work towards a cooler future.

God Bless,
Damian, Facilities Manager
St. Thomas the Apostle Church

Voted
Best of Essex
Private Elementary School Category
five years running

St. Thomas the Apostle

Strong Academics • Middle States Accredited
Engaging Extracurriculars • Full-Day Kindergarten
BeforeCare/AfterCare • PreK through 8th Grade

Currently registering for September 2026

Our Hawks fly higher. Call for a tour and find out why.

50 Byrd Avenue • (973) 338-8505 • staschoolnj.org

FRAUD ALERT:
The clergy and staff of the parish will NEVER send you an email of text asking you to send money or your personal information to them. If you receive such a request purporting to be from one of our clergy or staff members, please alert us and
DO NOT SEND MONEY OR GIFT CARDS.
Or respond to the online or texted request.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
BLOOMFIELD, NJ

ADULT CHOIR

Join us this September
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
Season begins September 15th

Sing at the 10:00 am Mass
September - June

New singers welcome,
No experience necessary!

WELCOMING COMMUNITY

Questions? Ready to sing?
Patricio Molina, MD
Kim Mesiti, Assoc. MD
kim.mesiti@stachurchbloomfield.org
Or come see us after mass!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

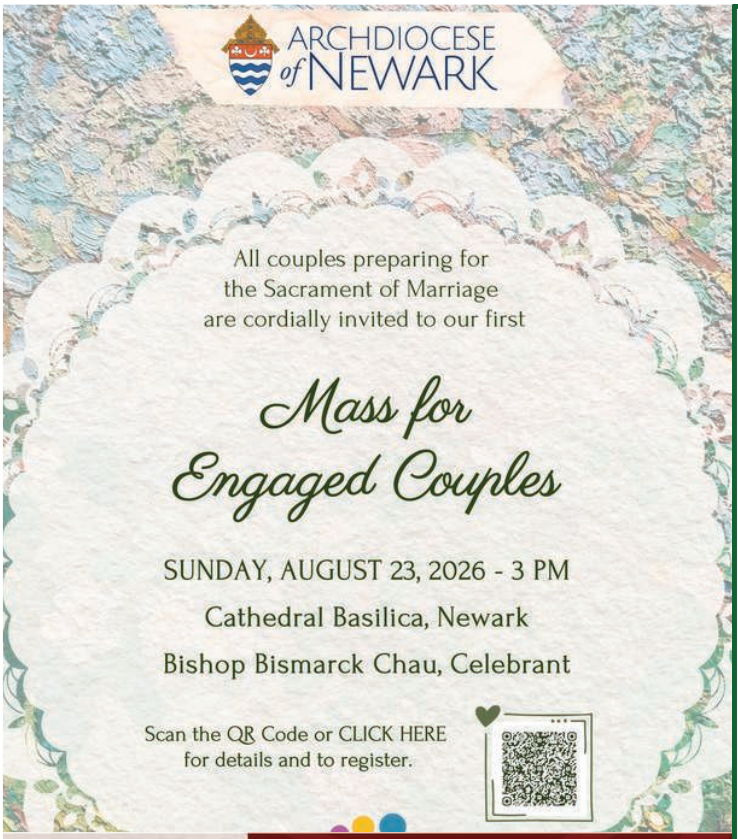
Our active membership of those who crochet or knit has decreased over the last few years, though the needs remain great. Since January, we have made and distributed 41 blankets for our baptized babies, along with numerous shawls, lap robes, and prayer squares.

It is increasingly difficult to create all the items our parish relies on. We are asking for anyone that crochets or knits to please consider sharing your talent with our ministry.

You do not have to attend meetings to be a member. We would also appreciate donations to purchase yarn. Please mark envelopes for the Prayer shawl.
We will also take your unwanted yarn which you can drop off at the parish center during open hours.

Thank you for your consideration to help keep our ministry thriving!

Betsy Sabato, Prayer Shawl Leader
betsy.sabato@gmail.com or call: 973 632-9400



LOVE AND CARE MISSION Weekend 8/22-23/26

LCM was founded by priests and lay people, supported by Bishops with a vision to answer the call of God to serve the poor and the needy. The founding directors have been in such ministry for many years. Our ministry is based on Jesus' mission of healing the sick and comforting the afflicted and to bring the good news of salvation to all. LCM is committed to Respect life, specially to alleviate the sufferings of the poorest of the poor, sick and needy children in the developing world. These children need our care and attention. The organization currently supports projects in India, Nigeria, Kenya and Ghana. We help throughout 7 dioceses, 9 Religious (Nuns) congregations and 4 not for profit organizations.

"Love and Care Mission" is a not-for-profit, tax exempt, catholic organization based in New York, announcing the good news of Jesus by helping the poor and needy-worldwide. Some of our prominent projects for which we need help, are:

1. HIV/AIDS Care - at Deena Nilaya, Bangalore/ Mysore, St. Joseph leprosy hospital at Tuticorin and Gramodhaya- at Palayamkottai, we support 260 HIV affected children with food , medicine and education.
2. Orphan Children - 7 orphanages in 6 dioceses with food and education.
3. Street Children - 98 children, many of whom are run aways are supported with food and education in 2 street children projects.
4. Tribal Children - Helps in education to 105 poor Tribal Children in 2 projects in India & Kenya.
5. Poor Children Education Program - Provides school fees, school supplies, and dress to the school going poor children in 8 centers in India, Ghana and Nigeria.
6. Evening Study Programs - Poor students whose parents are uneducated are taught by our hired teachers and volunteers in 16 learning centers.
7. Drinking water - we are digging bore wells and building water tanks to supply village churches, schools and homes with clean water.
8. Seminarian Support - helping the poor young men for their studies in the seminary.
9. Lepers' Children care - supports 85 families suffering Leprosy in Nigeria and in India and giving Special care for their children.
10. Caring for mentally challenged women and children - St. Joseph's Charity home, and Chingleput chidren projects which care for 135 mentally challenged women and children.
11. Building a gathering space for safe study and prayer with their families in the evening.

The need is growing. We reach out to you in this mission appeal to help these needy children with your help. Thank you for all of your help. Learn more at:
Loveandcaremission.org lovecaremission@yahoo.com

Every work of Love brings a person face to face with God. ~ Mother Theresa

Residential & Commercial
Over 18 Years Experience
HAPPY TREES
BY MGM
LLC
Bloomfield, NJ
TREE SERVICE
Tree Experts for:
• Removal
• Pruning
• Trimming
• Stump Grinding
• Storm Damage
High Quality Service at Reasonable Prices
Payment plans available
YEAR ROUND SERVICE
Lic. # 13VH03451800
Free Estimates
Fully Insured
Bloomfield, NJ
Marvin G. Monge
(973) 338-0506
marvin@happytreesbymgm.com

RICH Probst
P: 973.743.7434
F: 973.743.3736
LEAD-SAFE SEPA CERTIFIED FIRM
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
KITCHEN - BATHS
WINDOWS - DOORS
All Types of Remodeling
578 Broad St. Bloomfield, NJ 07003
www.richardprobstgeneralcontractor.com

Levandoski – Grillo
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE
44 Bay Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ
973-743-6969
www.LevandoskiGrillo.com
Centrally located in town, valet parking,
flexible funeral options.
Privately Owned and Operated.
Serving Bloomfield since 1939
Nicholas J. Grillo, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4795
Joseph Wood, CFSP, N.J. Lic. No. 4994
Michael Z. Levandoski, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 3348

Brookdale DENTAL Group
1218 Broad St. • Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Tel: 973-338-3700 • Fax: 973-338-7560
www.brookdaledentalgroup.com

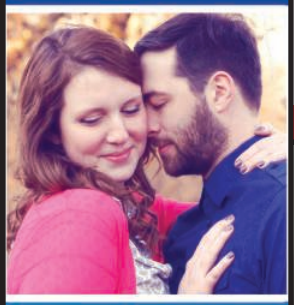
THE AGENCY
One Rock
Kerry Darata
Realtor-Associate®
Your neighbor in faith and in real estate.
Contact me for a free CMA - let's see
what your home is worth today!
862-201-6718
kdarata@theagencyonerock.com
www.thedaratagroup.com
Local Knowledge. Global Reach.

AGENCY ON THE AVE
349 FRANKLIN AVENUE NUTLEY
MARGARET COZZARELLI
Parishioner & Realtor
973-951-6705 cell
973-337-8883 office
Margaret.Cozzarelli@yahoo.com

Fred's LAWN CARE
Affordable Full-Service Landscaping
& Property Maintenance
973.667.2899
www.fredslawncarenj.com
Family Owned & Operated
HFS Class of '88 | Matthew 6:33
FREE ESTIMATES

ROOFING & CHIMNEY
REPAIRS
MASONRY • DECK • STEPS • GUTTERS
We Find & Fix Leaks!
$1500 OFF
Any New Roof, Chimney, Deck Replacement
20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutters, Masonry, Deck, Steps • Repairs
SENIORS • VETERANS
ROYAL PRO CONSTRUCTION
Call ERIC the Owner.
732-589-9967
www.royalproconstructionnj.com
Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200 • Bonded & Insured • 20+ Years
Serving All of New Jersey and Bucks County, PA

Miracle-Ear
PATIENTS WHO MAY NEED TO SEE A HEARING HEALTHCARE SPECIALIST ©
• Difficulty picking out words in the presence of background noise
• Hearing but not understanding certain words
• Having to turn the TV up loud or use captions to understand
• Complaints of Tinnitus - buzzing or ringing sounds in one or both ears
We provide FREE testing consultation with no obligation!
(973) 743-8659
Bloomfield@frasierenterprises.com

catholicmatch®
New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/
dateNJ

SORCE Casting LLC
973.979.9530
Bloomfield, NJ
Junk Removal
We Buy Houses

Auto + Home
Combine and save.
State Farm
Michael Bush • 973-338-6420
1293 Broad St.
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
michaelbushinsurance.com

Theresa Venezia
Parishioner
Global Real Estate Advisor
Sales Associate, ABR, SRES
Prominent Properties
Sotheby's International Realty
theresav321@gmail.com
32 Valley Road, Montclair, NJ 07042
c 201.513.-6026 o 973.783.6900 x137

MAUTONE ELECTRIC LLC
Res. • Comm. - Lic. #15098
973-893-1411
Bloomfield, NJ - Parishioner

McLaughlin & Nardi, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
37 Vreeland Ave. Totowa, NJ
973-890-0004
www.esqnj.com

Matthew's
ITALIAN RESTAURANT
Neighborhood Italian. Redfined.
973.928.4300 | matthewsitalian.com
info@matthewsitalian.com
1131 Bloomfield Ave, Clifton, NJ
Open 7 Days & 7 Nights
On and Off Premise Catering Available
Like Us. Follow Us. Dine with Us.

HALPIN-BITECOLA
BROOKDALE FUNERAL HOME
Family Owned - Parishioners
Serving the St. Thomas Community Since 1963
973-338-5900
Traditional & Modern Funeral Services
Full Service & Immediate Cremation
Pre-Planning - Funeral Trust Accounts
Web Streaming / Video Tributes
1284 Broad St, Bloomfield
Daniel Bitecola III , CPC, CFSP Manager NJ Lic. NO 4814
Halpin-Bitecola Brookdale Funeral & Cremation Service LLC

973-743-9393
293 Broad St
Bloomfield, NJ
WELCOME TO Fabulous NEVADA RESTAURANT DINER
Family Owned & Operated since 1981
Cafe • Bar • Juice Bar & Bakery

J.Q. Automotive
1050 Broad Street
Bloomfield
973-893-9239
Foreign & Domestic Repair Specialist
Family Owned, Operated & Trusted For 25 Yrs.
Computer Diagnostic Specialists
Emission Repair Facility • Brake Service
Exhaust Systems • Front End Repairs
Electrical Repairs • Transmission Service
TECH-NET Professional Air Conditioning Service

PERRONE CONSTRUCTION
Mason & General Contractors
Call for a FREE ESTIMATE 973-759-4643
www.perronemasonry.com
• Steps
• Sidewalks
• Driveways
• Patios
• Stucco
• Retaining Walls
• French Drains
• Foundations
• Porches
• Blue Stone
• Additions
• Chimneys
• Brick Pavers
• Brick/Stonework
• Belgian Block Curbs
• Basement Waterproofing
ACCREDITED BUSINESS BBB
Joseph Perrone, Parishioner
Fully Insured • Discount for Seniors

McMillan
Masonry & Construction
Landscape Maintenance
Design & Installation
Residential & Commercial
McMillanLandscape.com • 973-667-6655

Finding FIBER
FREE DOWNLOAD!
CONNECTING LOCALLY TRUSTED BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT OUR PARISH AND THE COMMUNITY.

Biondi FUNERAL HOME
Generations of Compassionate Care

Funeral Services | Cremation Services | Burial Services | Pre-Planning
540 Franklin Avenue, Nutley, NJ 07110
973.661.2800
www.BiondiFuneralHome.com
Lisa M. Hayducka, Manager NJ Lic. #5522

O'BOYLE FUNERAL HOME
Michael H. O'Boyle, Dir.
N.J. Lic. No. 3067
307-309 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ
973-748-1246
"An Independent Family Owned Funeral Home"

Air Group LLC
HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING • ELECTRICAL
Since 1965
800-545-1020
www.AIRGROUPLLC.COM