

St. Thomas More Church

1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003

856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411

Web Site: <http://stthomasmorenj.org/> • E-mail: stthomasmore@comcast.net

Eucharistic Celebrations
 Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
 Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am
 Weekdays:
 Monday-Friday: 6:45 and 9:00 am
 Saturday: 9:00 am
 Holyday Vigil: 7:30 pm
 Holyday: 6:45 & 9:00 am & 7:30 pm



Rite of Reconciliation
 Saturdays: 3:30-4:00 pm
 or any time by appointment

Reverend Phillip M. Johnson, Priest-in-charge
 Reverend Daniel Joyce, S.J., Weekend Assistant
 Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
 Deacon John Harrington
 Pat Maggart, Parish Catechetical Leader
 Roger Pisani, Pastoral Associate for Music & Liturgy
 Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Norma Matos, Parish Secretary
 Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees	Gary Gadren	424-3212
	Pat Lachnicht	424-3212

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Knights of Columbus	Dick Spence	428-8325
Marriage Formation	Bob/Liz Scarpa	795-1160
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Pat Maggart	429-6948
Pastoral Counselor	Claire Spence	428-8325
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath	779-7130
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212

Rosary Ministry	Marian/Chuck Kapischke	424-2053
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	424-4759
Spiritual Direction	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073
	Denise Radziwill	424-0494
St. Vincent de Paul	Frank Nicoletti	424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Youth Ministry	Stan Thompson	424-1120

Worship

Altar Servers	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Church Environment	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Antonina Nicdao	751-6320
Ch. Art Environment	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Eucharistic Ministers	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
Lectors	Pat Lachnicht	424-5636
Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Sacristans	Dom Sacca	
	Tom Petrilli	751-1367
	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
	Frank Krenslak	309-1999
Ushers	Roger Pisani, Director	609-488-0020
Music Ministry	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
	Len Kolojejchick	346-4078
	June Garafano, Youth Singers	229-7461

Social Development

Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
	Al Shaffer	609-417-6770
	June Garafano	229-7461
	Bob Lento	344-7454
	Committee	424-3212
	Eileen Withers	751-6838

Administration

House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	424-3212
Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	751-8893

PARISH MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

Mission (*Purpose*)

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we the Catholic Community of St. Thomas More respond to our call to holiness.

Vision (*Goals*)

Empowered by Baptism, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and formed by the Word of God and the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, we live out our Mission by working together:

- To structure prayerful, vibrant, participatory, Sunday worship experiences.
- To provide Life Long Faith formation for all age levels.
- To care for the young, the old, the sick, the hurting and the needy, both inside and outside our parish.
- To promote faith sharing, prayer, support, learning and listening to one another as a model for nourishing and sustaining our faith community.
- To welcome back, with hospitality, those who have left our faith community.

VISITATION AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office, 424-3212, if a family member is seriously ill or facing/recovering from surgery and would like to see a priest or receive the Anointing of the Sick. Holy Communion is also available to those who are homebound on an ongoing basis.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please make arrangements for Baptism in advance through the parish office. Parents and godparents are required to attend a preparatory session.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to marry will attend a marriage preparation program called Living in Love. Call office for appointment.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of formation for full initiation into the Catholic Church. It is open to those never Baptized; those baptized in another faith; and Catholics who have not received First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

For more information, please contact Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate, 424-3212 ext. 104 or Deacon John Harrington, Moderator, at 424-3212 ext. 103.

RCIA Team: John Mohan and Irene Rellosa

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sunday, during 10 a.m. Mass
Grades one thru four: Tuesday, 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.
Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish office to register.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please submit hardcopy and/or e-mail by 4 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088
Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing

SCC Facilitators' Training:

All facilitators of Small Christian Communities are encouraged to make every effort to attend a training session next **Saturday, February 2 from 10 AM to 12 PM in the Parish Hall.**

Sister Honora Nolty, from Renew International, will speak about the "New Evangelization" which invites each Catholic to renew their relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church.

Sister will focus on how Small Christian Communities are called to participate in the New Evangelization. For more information contact Sister Ann at 424-3212 ext. 104.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The fifth Confirmation I class will be held next Sunday, February 3, at 11 a.m. in the St. Thomas More Parish Hall. All seventh grade students are expected to attend the 10:00 Mass prior to class.

Pat Maggart, PCL, 424-3212 - ext. 106

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



February 12

5 - 7 p.m.

Open to ALL parishioners.



Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Women's Club



20 Jr. & Sr. Youth Group participants from St. Thomas More & Holy Eucharist spent their Sunday afternoon at The Fountains Sr. Living Community in Atco. The YG made Valentine's crafts with the Skilled Living residents, played board games with the Assisted-Living residents and served both groups of residents afternoon snacks. All found this MLK service event to be fun & rewarding!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

January 20, 2013

\$9,204.50 - 234 Envelopes

May the Lord bless you for your generosity to your parish.

God in the Womb

Fr. Phillip Johnson

Writing this article on the 40th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, a memory comes to mind – a vivid memory of being with my mother in the final month of her life. During this time I would sometimes read to her from the Holy Scriptures. One Psalm in particular she asked to hear again and again. Psalm 139 is a long and lyrical meditation on the gift of life from the Creator, on the wonder of being alive, on the deep involvement of God with the human person from the first moment of being.

You formed my inmost being;
you knit me in my mother's womb.
I praise you, so wonderfully you made me;
wonderful are your works!
My very self you knew
Your eyes foresaw my actions;
in your book all are written down;
my days were shaped before one came to be. (verses 13-14, 16)

"You knit me together in my mother's womb." The words make a good introduction to the way Holy Scripture envisions human life in the womb. *"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you,"* God revealed to Jeremiah, *"and before you were born I consecrated you"* (Jer. 1:5). St. Paul likewise remembers his conversion on the Damascus road, *"when God, who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me through his grace..."* (Gal. 15). In the story of the Virgin Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth – both women being pregnant – St. Luke's gospel tells us that *"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant (in her womb) leaped for joy"* (Lk. 1:41).

These passages, in their own contexts, are not anti-abortion texts. They do not directly "prove" that abortion is a grave evil. They do, however, show the way in which the biblical understanding of creation as a free and loving personal *gift* of life sows the seeds of a radical reverence for human life in the heart of the believer. And it becomes clear why the act of conceiving a child is called by Church, not reproduction, but *procreation*.

Faith in the Creator: that's where the pro-life vision starts. However, what completes the vision is Christ. What makes abortion unthinkable for the Church is the faith that Jesus Christ has redeemed every moment of human life from conception to death. By his incarnation and death, Jesus "has been with us in the darkness of the womb as he will be in the darkness of the tomb" (Gilbert Meilaender).

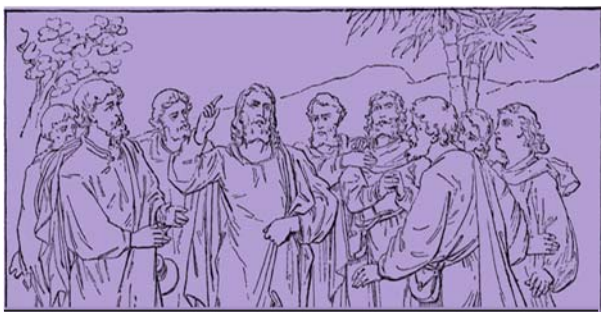
Only this faith in Christ's *sanctification* of every moment of human existence explains the new reverence for life in the womb that marked the Christian ethic from the beginning. "The practice of abortion was one to which few persons in antiquity attached any deep feelings of condemnation." But, "the language of the Christians from the very beginning was widely different. With unwavering consistency and with the strongest emphasis, they denounced the practice . . ." (W. E. H. Lecky, *History of European Morals*).

From the womb to the tomb. This brings me back to mother's last days and to what I now think of as "her Psalm".

If I ascend to the heavens, you are there,
if I lie down in the grave, you are there too. . . .
If I say, "Surely darkness will hide me,
and night shall be my dwelling place" –
Darkness is not dark for you,
and night shines as the day. (Ps.139:8, 11-12)

+ + +

Lenten Small Christian Communities



The Small Christian Community is all about helping each other go deeper into the mystery of the human person and the mystery of God.

Facilitators and Meeting Times:

**Norma Matos – Monday Afternoon
1 PM – St. Mary’s Village**

**Lois Udicious/Gail Bizzoso
Monday Afternoon – 1 PM**

**Sister Ann
Monday Evening – 7 PM**

**Bob & Ann Marie Lento
Monday Evening – 7:30 PM**

**Pat Lachnicht/Pat Beaney
Tuesday Morning – 9:30 AM**

**Claire Spence/Shirley Kane
Wednesday Morning – 9:30 AM**

**Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa
Wednesday Evening – 7 PM**

**Mena Kramer
Wednesday Evening – 7 PM**

**Marianne Gorin/Marian Kapischke
Thursday Morning – 10 AM**

**Gaye Pino
Thursday Evening – 6:30 PM**

**Deacon John Harrington
Thursday Evening – 7 PM**

**Kathy Glover
Thursday Evening – 7 PM**

**Jean Ho/Diane Pien
Saturday Evening – 6 PM**

Call Sister Ann at 424-3212 ext. 104 for more information.

YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sr. – High School students Jr. – 6th
through 8th grades



NEXT WEEKEND! February 2 & 3
will be St. Thomas More Youth
Group’s 11th year of conducting
the Souper Bowl of Caring Project.

100% of the funds raised will benefit our
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, who helps
those with food-related needs in our community.

- **February 16** - Ronald McDonald House Breakfast
- **March** - Skating Party

Stan Thompson, YG Coordinator-424-1120

Saint Thomas More Parish A DINNER NIGHT Fundraiser

Tavola Dei Amici

(1630 N. Kings Highway-Ellisburg Shopping Center)

Date: Thursday, January 31, 2013

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00 per person

COME OUT AND ENJOY FINE FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS.

Seating is Limited

Registrations can be placed at the sign-up table in
the gathering space after Mass or contact: Joe
Centonze, 986-7990, or Marianne Gorin, 346-1811.

**MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK**



SATURDAY - JANUARY 26

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Lillian Reader r/b Lillian Creedon

SUNDAY - JANUARY 27

8:30 am Robert J. Moran r/b Tobin Family
10:00 am Sara Centonze r/b Rita & Joe Lopes
11:30 am Salvatore DiMaggio r/b Dottie & Joe Cammarasana

MONDAY - JANUARY 28

6:45 am Rodolfo Pasion r/b Dom & Marie Sacca
9:00 am Concepcion de la Fuente r/b Grace Cobin

TUESDAY - JANUARY 29

6:45 am Rev. William Shelley r/b Michael Curtis
9:00 am Mary Louise Evans r/b Sheila & Jim DeCrescenzo

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 30

6:45 am Emilio Bruno & Antonio Del Vecchio r/b The Bruno Family
9:00 am Martin Gestautas r/b Chuck & Marian Kapischke

THURSDAY - JANUARY 31

6:45 am Warren Mazzochette r/b Joanne Wachman
9:00 am Richard Byrnes, Sr. r/b Norma Matos Netta Torlucci r/b Fred & Tina Petrone

FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 1

6:45 am George Edapatt r/b Family
9:00 am Peter Buttacavoli r/b Fred & Tina Petrone

SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 2

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Joan Radula r/b Round Table Ladies

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 3

8:30 am Brian Deutsch r/b Jamie & Kyle Graziano
10:00 am Bill Koelsch r/b Family Richard Byrnes, Sr. r/b The Angelucci Family
11:30 am Kathleen Frain r/b Jack Boesch

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

St. Thomas More Parish's Progressive Dinner will take place on Sunday, **April 7, 2013** at Caffe Aldo Lamberti, Cherry Hill. Sign ups will be in February. Watch the bulletin for further information.

Mary Lou Thomas

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
THE SICK...**

Don Kreal
Maria Storms
Phyllis Schadt
Mary Flacco
Ron Massey
Olga Mignone

Bob & Claire Boylan
Naomi Willingmyre
George Sweeten
FrankCappetta
Michael Kapischke
Betty O'Donnell
Joanne James




Frank Colbert
Mary Cowan
Shirley Birch
Jean Colbert
Dorothy Brink
Pat Barton
Leila Lore
Chase Lupica
Pat Beaney
YunYun Shen
Virginia Foley
Fran Swider
Rose Hession
Danny Perla
Anna Bedrick

Marie Mazzagatti
Stanley Kochanek
Pauline Rosberg
Joseph Console
Geraldyn Coticone
Jerry McMenamin
Pasquale DiFronzo
Dorothy Wolenter
Mary Branciforte
Virginia Gormley
Angelo DiGiacomo
Wayne Mauri, Sr.
Paul Charette
Chuck Kapischke
Pat Brink

Alfred DiFrank
Denise Daniels
Chris Kolodzey
Marie DiFrank
Ethan Killeen
Carlos Santiago
Betty Brennan
Sharon Bushelli
Michael Suralik
Bill O'Donnell
Teddy Shaffer
Bill Botensten
Ed Rivero
Cindy Zielinski

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

 Lt. Col. Allison Agar, Lt. Cdr. Richard P. Byrnes, Jr., Pvt. 1st Class Mario Centofanti, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, Sr. Airman John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, Major Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, SSgt Arturo Rivero, Jr., Lt. Col. Karl Rohr, SPC Giselle M. Torres and Sgt. Michael Willingmyre.

'FUNSTER NEWS'




Funster Trips are open to **all** Parishioners & Friends

2013 Bus Trips

Tuesday, May 21: BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER to see "Noah" at the Sight n Sound Theater. Trip includes bus transportation, lunch, and tickets to 4:15 p.m. performance. \$99 per person.

Mon.-Fri., Sept. 9-13: MAINE TRAIN TOUR - 5 night bus trip including 1 night stop in Boston area, visit to Acadia National Park, breakfast & dinner daily, and 3 different train excursions. \$679 per person double occupancy

Detailed itinerary available by request - call Lin Lyon at 795-4396.

 Knights of Columbus Council #6173 thanks you for your generous support during our ROSES FOR LIFE Program. We collected \$772.00 — **The Most Ever!**

R. Haughwout, PGK
Pg. 5 - 632

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Please note that we put the following week's Gospel passage in this space so you can prepare all week for proclamation of the Gospel the following Sunday. Faith Sharing helps ordinary people connect their faith with everyday life experiences.

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 3, 2013 – Luke 4:21-30

(Jesus was speaking in the synagogue in Nazareth. Those who heard him were amazed. However, they found it hard to accept Jesus' words because they knew him as the son of a carpenter. What could he possibly know?) "Jesus said to them, Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon...When the people heard this, they rose up, drove Jesus out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill...to hurl him down headlong. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away."

Commentary:

The people of Nazareth are like most of us - not interested in being challenged or changed. Jesus reminds them that prophets are traditionally accepted by outsiders, not insiders. So, the people of Nazareth decided to throw Jesus down to his death. They did not succeed that day, but they would succeed eventually. You and I are perhaps more civilized, less violent than the Nazarenes. We would never murder a prophet in cold blood. But we may be just as likely to shrug off the challenge to change our thinking. How could we possibly be wrong?

Questions for Reflection and Sharing:

1. What is God saying to me in this Gospel passage?
2. What word or phrase in this Gospel speaks to me?
3. What word or phrase in the Reflection resonates with me?

Volunteer Opportunities for Saint Thomas More Parishioners

When: Tues., Feb. 26 and/or March 5 from 5 PM-8 PM and **Thurs.**, Feb. 28 and/or March 7 from 10 AM-1 PM
Where: Cherry Hill Food Bank (Chapel Ave.) **Call Elaine Beckman at 856-428-8431.**



Calling married couples of all ages. Invest a day and a half learning how to make the person who is most precious to you feel more "in love".

When? Sat., Feb. 9 thru Feb. 10,

2013

Where? St. Chares Borromeo Parish, Sicklerville, NJ
 For more information or to register on line go to



YEAR OF FAITH 2012

Please Join Us in Celebrating the Year of Faith:

Renewing our Relationship with Jesus and His Church — Presenter: Rev.

Joseph Capella, Thurs., Feb. 14, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m with The Franciscan Sisters, 1218 Kreson Rd., Cherry Hill. Free-will offering by participants. To register, call Sr. Angela Pia, 428-8834.

Ministry Schedule for February 2, and 3, 2013

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father Odien	D Kreal B Casey	Sr Anna, R Crawford T Petrone, G Tyrrell	K Erickson	D Ha, L Smith B Scarpa
8:30 a.m.	Father Joyce	C Malatino R Pisani	A Del Campo-O'Brien J Kenney, B Massey, B Scarpa	M Maggart	A/I Cammisa B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Joyce	Adult Choir R Pisani	N/P Kirincic D/ML Thomas	F Eggles	G/M Gray A Rzepski
11:30 a.m.	Father Rossi	C Pisani R Pisani	B Haughwout, P Rossi M Santiago, A Thompson	V Marchesani	R Caton, E Thompson H Rosenblatt