

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: 7:00 pm
 Holyday: 6:45 & 9:00 am & 7:00 pm



Rite of Reconciliation
 Saturdays: 3:00-4:00 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
 Sister Katherine Pociecha, LSIC, Religious Education Coordinator
 Julie Linn, Music Ministry
 Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Norma Matos, Parish Secretary
 Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees	John Mohan	424-3212
	Greta Tyrrell	424-3212

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement	Staff	424-3212
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.	Sister Katherine Pociecha	424-3212
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath	779-7130
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	344-7454
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073
	Denise Radziwill	424-0494
St. Vincent de Paul	Stan Thompson	424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Youth Ministry	Stan Thompson	424-1120

Worship

Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212
	Pat Maggart	424-3212
	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Antonina Nicdao	751-6320
	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
	Pat Lachnicht	424-5636
	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Dom Sacca	
	Pat Maggart	424-3212
	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
	Frank Krenslak	309-1999

Social Development

Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
	June Garafano	229-7461
	Lin Lyon	795-4396
	Committee	424-3212
	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
	Lorraine Kennedy	489-0031

Administration

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 9, 2014

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.

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



The Stations of the Cross are being held on Friday evenings during Lent at 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

**Confession on Saturdays
During LENT**
March 15, 22, 29, April 5 & 12:
9:30 - 10:00 AM and
3:15 - 4:00 PM

REGIONAL PENITENTIAL SERVICE (with private confession)

Monday, April 7
7 p.m.
Regional celebration at St. Mary's
Large number of Confessors present

PARISH MISSION

**Our parish mission, this year, will be held
Mon., March 31, Tues., April 1 & Wed., April 2**
Attend Morning session; after 9 a.m. Mass or
Evening session; 7:30 p.m.
Please mark your calendars for this opportunity for Spiritual Renewal!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewards Serve Him Alone

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

MATTHEW 4:10B

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to be His Stewards by turning away from power and riches and putting God at the center of our lives.

PARISH COLLECTION

March 2, 2014
\$10,009.50 - 228 Envelopes

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

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (No. 33)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

A series of reflections about thinking, praying, professing and living the Faith of the Church.

Pillars of Catholic Penitential Practice: Fasting

Prayer, fasting, almsgiving – these acts of penance come to us directly from Christ himself (Matt. 6:1-8, 16-18). There is no Christian life without repentance, and there is no repentance that is not realized in penitential actions of abstinence, generous giving, and prayer. Jesus teaches us that by these secret disciplines, we enter into intimacy with his Father in Heaven who “sees in secret” (Matt. 6:4, 18). The three pillars stand together—contracting the boundaries of our consumption, expanding the boundaries of our generosity, and enlarging our capacity to pray. I start this three part reflection with fasting.

Jesus simply assumes that his followers will fast (Matt. 6:1). And he himself, during his trial in the wilderness, prepared for his ministry and coming sacrifice with a time of severe fasting. To encourage the faithful (and provide at least a minimum standard of practice), certain days and seasons are marked by required abstinence and fasting.

Friday, the Universal Day of Penance. . . .

For the Christian, every Friday partakes of the mystery of Good Friday. Through the whole of the year, we prepare for the coming Sunday by acts of penance on Friday. As you know, the mandate was once very simple: a Catholic who ate meat on Fridays did so on pain of sin. Now, as became effective on November 27, 1966, the mandate is changed. The bishops *did not alter the penitential character of Friday*. All Catholics age 14 years and older are to engage in penitential actions on Friday, through some form of fasting and acts of mercy. What changed is that the bishops no longer specified abstinence from meat. They now rely on you and me to choose a meaningful Friday abstinence. Why the change? We will come back to that below.

The Lenten Observance

The Friday mandate has changed, *except for every Friday in Lent*. All are to abstain from meat on all Fridays of Lent. Two days of the year—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday—are days of abstinence and fasting. On these two days, we are not only to abstain from eating meat, but to eat only one meal (or two very light meals). Once again, the abstinence rule holds for all those 14 years and older. But the mandated fast applies only to those age 14 through 60. Pregnant and nursing mothers and those who are ill are not required to fast.

Simple Rules or Love's Disciplines?

Why have the rules changed from time to time, most recently in 1966? If you read the Pastoral Statements of the bishops (the 1983 statements of the U.S. bishops is especially useful), there is no doubt about the bishop's hopes and intentions. They desired, not a relaxing of penitential practice, but an *intensification* of penitential devotion. It's easy enough to understand what the bishop's were worried about. They desired, not rule-keeping, but conversion of heart. They worried about the minimalism that always attends the rule-keeping mentality—like the “observance” of abstinence from meat by means of feeding on large portions of white-wine clam sauce over pasta! They hoped for that spirit articulated so elegantly by Blessed John Henry Newman. “Let not the year go round and round, without a break and interruption in its circle of pleasures. Give back some of God's gifts to God, that you may safely enjoy the rest..”. Did the bishops fail? Were they simply naïve? Well, that will depend on us.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Ministry Schedule for March 15, and 16, 2014

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father Johnson	C Malatino J Linn	P Rossi, I Rellosa Sr. Zophia	T Andraka	J/P Wachman B Scarpa
8:30 a.m.	Father Joyce	R Kapschke J Linn	A Del Campo-O'Brien Sr. Katherine, Sr. Rosarla	J Vecchiola	J Pol B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Joyce	Choir/D Kreal J Linn	E Beckman D/L Lyon	D Mayfield	G/M Gray L Smith
11:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	M Kramer J Linn	M Gorlin, S Kane A Thompson	K Wlslocky	R Caton O Reganata E Thompson

House of Charity Celebrating 50 Years 1964-2014

"Unearthing the Treasure"

Your sacrificial gift provides health, social and welfare services for those in need.

Our 2014 House of Charity Parish goal is \$112,200.00. (an increase of 2% over 2013)

The 2014 goal for the Diocese of Camden is \$7.25 million.

Our prayer is that with God's help and your generous sacrificial gift we will make and exceed our parish goal.

Taize Prayer Service **SAVE THE DATE!**

Wednesday, March 26 - 7 pm
OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Taize Prayer is a wonderful meditative experience which includes simple chants sung repeatedly, rich silence, scripture readings, prayer around the cross during Lent, and prayers of praise and intercession.

Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Women's Club
Light refreshments after the service.

The **Knights of Columbus Cherry Hill Council** wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude to our friends for supporting our Winter "Dining for Dollars" event at the Outback Restaurant.

We had a tremendous turn-out. Our fellow parishioners of St. Thomas More Parish are always generous and supportive of our Council's endeavors which enables us to share that generosity with the charitable organizations that we support.

Richard Spence, M.D., Grand Knight
Joseph Centonze, Event Coordinator



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The sixth Confirmation I preparatory class for all seventh grade students will be held this Sunday, March 9, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas More Hall. All seventh grade students are expected to attend as well as the 10 a.m. Mass.

Sr. Katherine Pocięcha, REC, 424-3212 - ext. 106

Women's Club News

- **Book Group:** Tues., March 11 at 1:30 p.m. at Mary Lou Thomas' home - Book: "Fugitive Colors"

Barbara Cerquitella, 795-7323 &
Lorraine Kennedy, 489-0031, Co-Presidents

St. Thomas More FOURTEENTH ANNUAL PARISH-WIDE

PROGRESSIVE DINNER



St. Thomas More Parish's always popular Progressive Dinner will take place on **Sunday, April 6, 2014** at Caffé Aldo Lamberti, Cherry Hill, **5:30—9:30 P.M.** \$49 per person. Butlered hot & cold hors d'oeuvres, Mescaline or Caesar Salad, Main Course: Zucchini Crabcake, Chicken in Lemon Sauce or Spring Stuffed Pork Loin served with Vegetable Medley & Diced Red Bliss Rosemary Potatoes and Dessert: Tartufo, Key Lime Pie or Chocolate Frangelico Torte & Drinks: Soft drinks, Wine, Coffee or Tea
For reservations please call Barbara Cerquitella, 795-7323 or Joyce DeMichele, 424-4008 by no later than March 26.



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY - MARCH 8

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 4:30 pm Maureen Sweeney r/b John & Sheila Mohan

SUNDAY - MARCH 9

8:30 am Kay Turiano r/b Mike & Pat Maggart
 10:00 am Kay Turiano r/b Gary Gadren
 Mildred Cooney r/b Kolecki Family
 JoAnn Gadren r/b Marianne Wilkins
 11:30 am Tom Wilkins r/b Cindy & Mike Santoro & Family

MONDAY - MARCH 10

6:45 am Special Intention of TJ Sharpe r/b Family
 9:00 am Bernie Kapischke r/b Marian Kapischke

TUESDAY - MARCH 11

6:45 am Charles Fitzpatrick r/b his Wife
 9:00 am Kathy Shiflett r/b Henry & Kathy Glover

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 12

6:45 am Matilda Sacca r/b Norma Matos
 9:00 am David Rule r/b Marian Kapischke

THURSDAY - MARCH 13

6:45 am People of the Parish
 9:00 am Karen Marie Browning r/b her Mom
 Chuck Kapischke r/b Marianne Wilkins
 Patrick McNulty r/b Lois & Ralph Udicious

FRIDAY - MARCH 14

6:45 am People of the Parish
 9:00 am Veronica Kapischke r/b Marian Kapischke

SATURDAY - MARCH 15

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 4:30 pm Loretta Cirillo r/b Dick & Joyce DeMichele

SUNDAY - MARCH 16

8:30 am Michael Vigrass r/b Family
 10:00 am John Mohan, Sr. r/b John & Sheila Mohan
 Deceased Members of St. Thomas More Parish r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
 Rodolfo Pasion r/b Hu Family
 11:30 am Joe & Kay Turiano r/b Family

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER
March - That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
THE DECEASED... Patrick McNulty, Alfred DiFrank, Matilda Sacca and Anthony Bruno.

THE SICK...

Don Kreal	Naomi Willingmyre	
Maria Storms	George Sweeten	
Phyllis Schadt	John B. Kennedy	
Ron Massey	Michael Kapischke	
Helen Kane	Keri Fisher	
Claire Boylan	Betty O'Donnell	
Frank Colbert	Henry Bourgeois	
Mary Cowan	Stanley Kochanek	
Jean Colbert	Pauline Rosberg	
Pat Barton	Joseph Console	
Ed Rivero	Geralyn Coticone	
Pat Beaney	Jerry McMenamin	
YunYun Shen	Pasquale DiFronzo	
Rose Hession	Dorothy Wolenter	
Danny Perla	Mary Branciforte	
Anna Bedrick	Virginia Gormley	
Pat Brink	Angelo DiGiacomo	
Ginny Fritz	Wayne Mauri, Sr.	
Mary DeVito	Francesca Capra	
Sue Hagan	Deacon Jim Smith	
Bryan Dietrich	Margaret Crawford	
	Leila Lore	
	Chris Kolodzey	
	Ethan Killeen	
	Carlos Santiago	
	Betty Brennan	
	Barbara Salpas	
	Michael Suralik	
	Bill O'Donnell	
	Teddy Shaffer	
	Bill Botensten	
	Chase Lupica	
	Frank Cappetta	
	Harry Gindele	
	Eleanor Regan	
	Pat Suralik	
	Msgr. Budney	
	Pauline Montes	
	Julia Lepre	

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

Lt. Col. Allison Agar, SSgt Samuel Brough, Pvt. 1st Class Mario Centofanti, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, Major Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. Karl Rohr, Air Force Major James P. Tobin, SPC Giselle M. Torres and Sgt. Michael Willingmyre.

St. Thomas More St. Vincent de Paul Society
 Lent is a call not just to “give up something” but more important to “give something for the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society (parish office, 424-3212) so that together we can help the suffering and poor. We'll be collecting food and funds for food next weekend after all Masses.

Stan Thompson, President

Congratulations
James J. McFadden & Michael A. Ciccotta
 On having been listed on the academic honor roll at Saint Joseph's Preparatory School for first semester of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2014 - Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John, his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. A bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

Commentary:

Jesus looks very different to his friends on the mountaintop. What has changed: his outward appearance, or their ability to see Jesus clearly? Sometimes, miracles are in the eye of the beholder, or perhaps more accurately in the heart. We think we know what's going on around us, but a shift in perspective can make all the difference in what we actually perceive. When his friends look at Jesus on this occasion, they literally see the light. What about us? Do we see the pain in a co-worker's or family member's face? Only if we want to. Are we sensitive to racism, sexism, and prejudice of every kind? If we pay attention. Do we participate in and benefit from systems of injustice? If we open our eyes and our minds, we can find plenty of evidence in our lifestyles to support this conclusion. Our ability to see has a lot to do with how much light is admitted to the eyes. If we close our eyes to things we'd rather not see, our vision of the world and ourselves may be more comforting, but increasingly unreal.

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?



America will never be whole as long as the right to life granted by our Creator is denied to the pre-born through abortion and to the elderly through euthanasia.

Pro-Life Corner

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

Please give generously to the Catholic Missions Among the Black & Native Americans Collection.



Men & Women Volunteers NEEDED

Join fellow parishioners in packing grocery bags, sorting cans or handing out food at the Food Bank.

Where: Cherry Hill Food Pantry

(Chapel Ave. next to St. Michael's Lutheran Church)

When: Tuesdays, March 11 or 18 - 5-8:00 PM

AND Thursdays, March 13 or 20 - 10 AM-1 PM

Please call Elaine Beckman at 856-428-8431.

Nurses and Medical Assistants NEEDED

at Cherry Hill Food Pantry

Contact Sandy at 609-923-0553 or by email at dczerniakowski@comcast.net.

CATHEDRAL KITCHEN SANDWICH MAKERS

What a fantastic job done on Feb. 26. **THANK YOU, YOU ARE THE BEST!!!** Upcoming Dates: May 21, Aug. 20 & Nov. 19, 2014

Marianne Wilkins, Coordinator

Diocese of Camden

OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION

CAP Phase 1

- Mon., March 10, 7 p.m. Gloucester High School

CAP Phase 3—Cyber Empowerment

- Wed., March 19, St. Michael's, Clayton, Gym 881-0067

To attend one of the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) classes, please call the CAP registration line, 583-6165.

The Office of Vocations presents

iRace4Vocations

on Sunday, April 27 at Rowan University (201 Mullica Hill Rd., Glassboro)

Outdoor Mass with Bishop Sullivan - 1 p.m.

Race Starts at 3 p.m.

Free Will donations accepted.

Please call the parish office to register, 424-3212.

Registration ends 4/16/2014.

Come out to pray and race!

For more info go to www.camdenpriest.org.

**5K
Run/Walk**