

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

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

EASTER SCHEDULE – 2014

SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, April 17

“Mass of the Lord’s Supper” – **7:00 PM**

Adoration at the Repository in the Chapel until 10 PM

Good Friday, April 18

(A day of fast and abstinence)

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion – **3:00 PM**

Holy Saturday, April 19

Blessing of bread & food baskets – **12 noon**

EASTER VIGIL, April 19

8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, April 20

Masses – **8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 AM**

Bishop Dennis Sullivan has chosen to celebrate Easter Sunday 10:00 AM Mass with Saint Thomas More parishioners. We look forward to welcoming our Bishop.

HOLY THURSDAY COLLECTION: Your generous donations taken during the 7:00 p.m. Mass will be given to the needy and the poor.

HOLY LAND GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION, which is requested by the Holy Father, will be taken on Good Friday at the 3:00 service. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewards Carry His Cross

“As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian, named Simon, this man they pressed into service to carry his cross.” MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him “carry his cross”. These opportunities aren’t usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for someone. The key in living *Stewardship* is putting the other person’s needs before your own and not expecting anything in return.

PARISH COLLECTION

April 6, 2014

\$9,198.00 - 210 Envelopes

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

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (No. 37)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

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

“Keep Watch With Me”

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to feel sorrow and distress. Then he said to them, “My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me”. He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will.” When he returned to his disciples he found them asleep. He said to Peter, “So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?” (Matt. 26:36-38).

All four Gospels record the agony of Jesus in the Garden. It is one of the gospel scenes that almost all Christians remember. The spiritual suffering of Jesus, the dilemma and dismay of Peter, James and John—the pathos of the scene is palpable. But perhaps the scene remains with us also for another reason, because we find ourselves in the scene; we share Peter's dilemma and dismay. The words are addressed to us: “Could you not watch with me for one hour?”

In order to have his way with us, the evil one does not have to draw us into grave and notorious sins. If we can be simply lulled into spiritual sleepiness and dullness of heart, he counts it as a victory. This is why the call of Jesus to “watch and wait” with him is echoed throughout Holy Scripture. “For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as others do, but let us stay awake and sober” (1 Thess. 5:4-6).

In the New Testament, prayer is understood in just this way, as keeping vigil, watching and waiting for the unfolding of God's will. Prayer is the spiritual posture of paying attention, keeping watch for the work of God. By constancy in prayer, we fight off that spiritual drowsiness of one who is forgetful of God.

In prayer we fight off the drowsiness that blinds us to the true needs of others; we see others in the clear light of God's love. We watch and wait for the opportunities of love given to us anew every day. In prayer we fight off that drowsiness that dulls our consciences, blinding us to our own sins and our failures to love God. In prayer we begin to wake up to what is needful and urgent and what is not. Watching and waiting with Jesus, the “eyes of your hearts” are enlightened to the wonders of his love for you. (Eph. 1:18; 3:18-19).

Which brings us back to that scene in the Garden of Gethsemane. At the heart of that scene is the suffering of Jesus, but also the spiritual confusion and sorrow of his disciples. St. Luke tells us that St. Peter and the others fell asleep “because of their grief” (Lk. 22:45). This brings us to one of the great mysteries of faith and one of the great challenges to the believer.

The inevitable sorrows and griefs of this life can indeed dull our spirits, anesthetizing our hearts to the suffering love of God. Suffering can embitter, suffering can turn us inward in self-pity. “Why me?” Or—as the saints in every generation have proved—suffering can finally *wake us up* to our true and real selves before God. It can open our eyes to the suffering of others. And especially, as we watch and wait with Jesus, it can become a form of communion with our Lord Jesus in *his suffering* for us. Through the eyes of faith, suffering (in itself hideous, like his Cross) can be *actively* accepted, as we learn to pray with Jesus to his Father: Your will be done.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Ministry Schedule for April 17, 18, 19, and 20, 2014

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
Holy Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Father Johnson	J Linn	K Glover, J Kenney, B Lento, T Petrone, G Tyrrell	M Maggart	C Cepeda A/K/M/W Quay
Good Friday 3:00 p.m.	Father Johnson	J Linn	E Beckman N/P Kirincic	P Lachnicht	C/J McFadden A Rzepki, N Samson B Scarpa, E Thompson
Easter Vigil 8:00 p.m.	Father Johnson	Small Group J Linn	S Mohan, T Petrone I Rellosa	J Mohan S Kane P Lachnicht	M Ciccotta B Scarpa, A/J Zieba
Easter Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Father Jon Thomas	Sr. Pepita J Linn	J/L Duffy R Vanderwielen	D Miller	G/M Gray B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Bishop Sullivan Father Johnson	Choir S Caccavale J Linn	N Gitzes, D Gould M Santiago, D Staton	F Eggles	N Samson J/P Wachman
11:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	D Kreal J Linn	B Haughwout, L Levin H Protzman, A Thompson	V Marchesani	O Reganata S Russo, E Thompson

House of Charity
Celebrating 50 Years - 1964-2014
"Unearthing the Treasure"

THANK YOU to those who have already pledged. We are still striving to reach our 2014 parish goal of \$112,200.00. Pledge cards are available in the gathering space - please mail in or drop off at the parish office.

Women's Club News

General Meeting: Wed., April 23, 7:30 p.m.

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

Small Christian Communities

THANK YOU

Close to 200 parishioners participated in our Small Christian Communities this Lenten Season. We are grateful to our facilitators for planning, preparing, and leading their faith groups each week. Each Small Christian Community is a prayerful witness to all of us in St. Thomas More Parish. We thank you for your prayers and witness! Blessings!

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be NO Parish Religious Education Program classes this coming Tuesday, April 15, during the Holy Week.

There will be NO Liturgy of the Word for children on Easter Sunday, April 20.

On Saturday, April 12, our First Communicants gathered here at our church for a special retreat in preparation for their First Communion on May 3. Thank you to all, parents and teachers, who made the morning a big success.

During the months of April and May the offertory gifts will be brought forward by our First Communicants.

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

STM youth

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



Greeting from
STMYouth

Stan Thompson, Youth Coordinator, 424-1120



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY - APRIL 12

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 4:30 pm William Henwood r/b Frank & Marie Glaviano

SUNDAY - APRIL 13

8:30 am Lucy Donio r/b Patty & Paul Daly
 10:00 am Paul Charette r/b Don & Dolores Kreal
 Tom Wilkins r/b Don & Dolores Kreal
 Kay Turiano r/b Dudley & Mary Lou Thomas
 Thomas L. Angelucci, Sr. r/b Gladys
 11:30 am Dick Schweitzer r/b Family

MONDAY - APRIL 14

6:45 am Jose Perez
 9:00 am Sr. Helen Therese Gestautas r/b Marian Kapischke

TUESDAY - APRIL 15

6:45 am Father Hart r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
 9:00 am Martin Gestautas r/b Marian Kapischke

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 16

6:45 am Msgr. Budney r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
 9:00 am Jim Bones r/b Teri & Family

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 17

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY of the Passion of the Lord - APRIL 18

3:00 pm Passion

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 19

8:00 pm Edward Sorrentino r/b Robert Sorrentino & Theresa Skobodzinski

EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection of the Lord - APRIL 20

8:30 am Henry & Emily Ryszkiewicz r/b Family
 10:00 am Deceased Members of St. Thomas More Parish r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
 Joseph Zielinski r/b Cindy & Family
 Raymond White r/b Wislocky Family
 11:30 am Joe & Kay Turiano r/b Family

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

April - That governments may foster the protection of creation and the just distribution of natural resources.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK...

Don Kreal	George Sweeten
Maria Storms	John B. Kennedy
Phyllis Schadt	Michael Kapischke
Ron Massey	Chris Kolodzey
Helen Kane	Betty O'Donnell
Claire Boylan	Henry Bourgeois
Frank Colbert	Stanley Kochanek
Mary Cowan	Pauline Rosberg
Jean Colbert	Joseph Console
Pat Barton	Geralyn Coticone
Leila Lore	Jerry McMenamin
Ed Rivero	Pasquale DiFronzo
Pat Beaney	Dorothy Wolenter
YunYun Shen	Virginia Gormley
Rose Hession	Angelo DiGiacomo
Danny Perla	Wayne Mauri, Sr.
Anna Bedrick	Francesca Capra
Pat Brink	Deacon Jim Smith
Ginny Fritz	Margaret Crawford
Sue Hagan	Pauline Montes



Ethan Killeen
 Carlos Santiago
 Barbara Salpas
 Michael Suralik
 Bill O'Donnell
 Teddy Shaffer
 Bill Botensten
 Chase Lupica
 Frank Cappetta
 Harry Gindele
 Eleanor Regan
 Pat Suralik
 Bryan Dietrich
 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 PRAYER CHAIN: Do you have a special intention for which you are praying? Have others share your need. All requests are kept confidential. Contact the parish office, 424-3212.



St. Thomas More St. Vincent de Paul Society

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life.

Please support the Society so that together we can help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain. We will be collecting food and funds to purchase food after all Masses next weekend.

Stan Thompson, President



Holy Week schedules and Easter Flower donation envelopes are available at the doors of the Church. Your offering will be used for altar flowers, lilies for the shut-ins and church decorations.

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 Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014 - John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in...and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

Commentary:

Easter is not just a day on the church calendar. It's a season that lasts seven weeks. It's also a way of life for Christians, since every Sunday is considered a "little Easter" when Christ is present in the community once more. Our faith in the events of Easter Sunday make the difference between the gospel as the story of a hero long ago, and the story of salvation alive and well in our assembly today. So what will we do this Easter Sunday? Approach the tomb in the dark and see the stone removed, like Mary Magdalene? Will we enter the empty space, like Peter and the other disciple, and not understand what's happened? Will we find the tomb open and believe without seeing? And what will our faith prompt us to do next?

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?



Abortion is a problem for every one of us; we are all one big family. Nobody can be neutral on abortion; it involves the destruction of an entire group of human beings! Just as we cannot be indifferent to the killing of a newborn baby, so we cannot be indifferent to the killing of a pre-born baby.

Pro-Life Corner

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

OUR COMMUNITY BOOK OF PRAYERS

The special intentions that have been written during the last year in the Book of Prayer Requests, on the lectern in the back of the Chapel, will be burned before the Easter Vigil Mass symbolizing our total surrender to the greatness of God.

Office of Vocations presents

iRace 4Vocations

Sunday, April 27 at Rowan Univ.

5K
Run/Walk

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.

For more info go to www.camdenpriest.org.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) Course

Learn more about your faith and discover a method of family planning that is healthy and effective for body **and** soul.

Wednesdays: April 23, May 14, & June 18

7:15-9:45 pm in Voorhees, NJ

Register online at: <http://register.ccli.org/> and enter zip code. **DEADLINE: APRIL 16**

Online Virtual & Home Study NFP courses are also available at www.ccli.org.

For more info: sj.nfp@comcast.net or 753-1906.

Recruiting Volunteers

at St. Mary's Catholic Home, Cherry Hill
Companionship, Serve Coffee, Serve Lunch, Escort Residents, Paint Nails, Play Bingo - Call Allison Burton, 874-5308.

CHILDREN'S HOME CLOTHING DRIVE

Mark your Calendar!

April 26/27

It's spring cleaning time, this is a great opportunity to clean your closets.

Gary Gadren, Sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul Society

