

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: 3:30-4:00 pm
or any time by appointment

Reverend Phillip M. Johnson, Priest-in-charge
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
Sister Bozena, LSIC, Religious Education Coordinator
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
Kathleen Witts, Youth Coordinator
Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Marylee Garber, 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 David Galloway 770-1270
Marriage Formation Bob/Liz Scarpa 795-1160
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sister Bozena 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 Katie Witts 305-2914

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 424-3212
Pat Maggart 428-2412
Greta Tyrrell 309-1999
Frank Krenslak

Ushers

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - DECEMBER 28, 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.

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 & Bob Scarpa

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.

High School Youth Group Tuesday, 7:15—8:15 pm

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

St. Thomas More Parish NEW YEAR'S EVE MOVIE NIGHT

"Heaven is for Real"

BASED ON AN INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Wed., Dec. 31 - 7 PM

In the St. Thomas More Hall

\$15 donation - Reservation required to order food.

Contact Marianne with any questions at 346-1811 or email Joe Centonze at joecent4@gmail.com.

ALL ARE WELCOME, BRING A FRIEND

**Thank you to Jeff and Stacey
At Accessory Warehouse**
for hosting a fundraiser for the
Women's Club in November.



And,

**Thank you to all who supported
the opportunity to "donate as you shop."**

Women's Club News

Happy New Year

**January 21, 2015 Game Day
Noon Meeting**

Will Our Children have Faith?

*Presenters: Fr. Phillip Johnson
& Janet R. Johnson*



Parental, educational, pastoral, and practical reflections on the spiritual lives of children and how we can help to nourish their faith. This workshop is for parents of young children (infants through 6th graders).

Date: Saturday January 10, 2015—9:30AM to 12

**Time: 9:30AM Registration & Coffee
10AM—12 Noon Presentation & Sharing**

**Place: St. Thomas More Parish
Springdale Road, Cherry Hill
Child Care Provided**

**Call the Parish Office to Register
(856-424-3212)**

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (No. 53)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

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

The Family Within the Christmas Mystery and The World Meeting of Families

One year ago, in his Angelus address on the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Pope Francis reminded us of the light shed on the family by the coming of Christ. The Son of God “wanted to be born into a human family,” wrote the pope—“he wanted to have a mother and father.” The Holy Family of Nazareth provides a vision for all families, the pope said, “helping them increasingly to become communities of love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced.”

If the Eternal Word, the Eternal Son of God, is to live a truly human life, if he is to take on our nature and our experience as human beings, he must, like each one of us, receive his humanity through the mystery of the human family. Christ himself comes to us through the foundational human institution of the family.

We live in a time when the Church must communicate to the faithful and to the world, not only *what* the church teaches about marriage and the family, but *why*. That is, if we are to give account of our faith, Catholics must make clear how it is that the Church's vision of the family emerges inevitably from the most fundamental truths about the human person. More than that, we must learn to make clear (first to ourselves) that the Church's morality of marriage is the morality of human love *according to its very nature*. As the Second Vatican Council teaches:

“God created man in his own image and likeness (cf. Gen 1:26, 27). Calling him to existence through love, he called him at the same time for love. God is love (cf. 1 Jn 4:8) and in himself, he lives a mystery of personal loving communion. Creating the human race in his own image and continually keeping it in being, *God inscribed in the humanity of man and woman the vocation, and thus the capacity and responsibility, of love and communion. Love is therefore the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being.*” (*Gaudium et spes* 12)

It turns out that the family within the Christmas mystery bears witness to the whole of God's plan of salvation.

In the coming months a remarkable opportunity is ours for the spiritual renewal of families. September 22-27, 2015, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will welcome families from across America and around the world to the 2015 **World Meeting of Families, which will include a papal visit**. Since 1994, the World Meeting has convened every three years. At the 2012 gathering in Milan one million people attended the concluding papal mass. For details about how you can participate in this week of catechesis, celebration, and prayer (with venues for all ages), go online to www.worldmeeting2015 or the Facebook site, [world-Meeting2015](https://www.facebook.com/worldmeeting2015).

Meanwhile, Pope Francis urges us to “fervently call upon Mary Most Holy, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, and Saint Joseph her spouse...to enlighten, comfort and guide every family,” praying they may “fulfill with dignity and peace the mission which God has entrusted to them.” Prayer cards provided especially for this purpose are available to you at the church entrances.

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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Ministry Schedule for December 30, 31, 2014 & Jan 3, 4, 2015

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father	Julie	G. Tyrell, E. Beckamn, B. Lento	Galatl	C & I Fulton A. Rzepski
Jan. 1 10:00 am	Father	Julie	J. DeMichele, K. Glover, D. Staton	P. Lachnicht	K, E, A, W Quay
11:30 am	Father	Julie	A. Thompson, M. Garber, M. Swyer	D. Miller	T Ciccotta B Scarpa
Jan. 3 4:30 pm	Father	Choir/Becca Julie	P/N Kirincic I. Rellosa	F. Eggles	I. & C. Fulton B. Scarpa
Jan. 4 8:30 am	Father	Sr. Pepita Julie	B. Lento J. Kenney R. Vanderwellen	P. Lachnicht	M. & G. Gray B. Scarpa
10:00 am	Father	Rob Julie	J. Mazzagatti, D. Gould J. Galatl	L. Galatl	N. Samson A. & A. Cammisa
11:30am	Father	Dolores Betty	G. Gadren, M. Ciccotta S. Kane	R. Ciccotta	A. & J. Zleba B. S. Russo

The Ministry Schedule can be found at the St. Thomas More website: <http://stthomasmorenj.org/>.

Join Bishop Sullivan in Ireland—July 18th through 29th, 2015

Bishop Sullivan is hosting a tour of Ireland departing Philadelphia on Saturday, July 18th and returning to Philadelphia on Wednesday, July 29th. Visit Dublin, Cavan, Armagh, Knock, Galway, the Cliffs of Mohrer, Limerick and much more. Tour includes 11 days/ 10 nights; ten full Irish breakfasts; ten dinners (one with Irish storytelling and entertainment); gratuities to driver/guide; portorage of one piece of luggage; four star hotels; air conditioned motor coach; and a few Irish ballads sung by the Bishop along the way. The **land cost** of this tour is \$2209/pp double occupancy with a \$479 single supplement; space is limited. Airfare costs are based on availability at the time of booking (current estimates are roughly \$1300/ non-stop. For more information or to register— please contact anna.summers@camdendiocese.org or Robert.hughes@camden diocese.org or call 856-583-2807. A **non-refundable deposit of \$500** p/p is due with registration.

If you look for Me at Christmas,
You won't need a special star—
I'm no longer in Bethlehem,
I'm right where you are.
You may not be aware of Me
Amid the celebrations—
You'll have to look beyond the stores
And all the decorations.
But if you take a moment
From your list of things to do,
And listen to your heart, you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.
You're the one I want to be with,
You're the reason that I came,
And you'll find me in the stillness as
I'm whispering your name.
Love, Jesus



NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Wednesday, December 31, 2014 (Vigil) 4:30 PM
Thursday, January 1, 2015
10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

St. Thomas More is pleased to provide
**“Enhancing Stewardship
through Electronic Funds Transfer.”**

It's Simple, Secure, Convenient. The parish benefits from stable monthly contributions. For more information or to get started log on to: <http://www.stthomasmorenj.org> and click on the Parish Giving Logo to follow the easy registration steps.
And, as always, thank you for your generosity to our parish.



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY—DECEMBER 27

4:30 pm Frank Scott r/b Buzz Cirillo

SUNDAY—DECEMBER 28

8:30 am Elizabeth Wilson r/b DeMasi family
 10:00 am Joseph DiPhillipo r/b daughter, Marie
 John Ryan r/b family
 Anna DiPrimio & Analisa DiFilippo
 r/b Joan & Jack Hyer
 11:30 am Dick Schweitzer r/b family

MONDAY - DECEMBER 29

6:45 am Pamela Notaro r/b Dr. Patrick
 & Mrs. Janet Houston
 9:00 am Henry Bourgeois r/b Bob
 & Elizabeth Scarpa

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 30

6:45 am Felix Amado r/b Franciscan Sisters
 of the Infant Jesus
 9:00 am Eleanor Scarpa r/b Marie Budroe

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 31

9:00am Intentions of Ryan Caton
 r/b Pat & Don Brink

4:30 pm Dudley Cannon r/b Margaret Kane

THURSDAY - JANUARY 1

10:00 am intentions of Linda Lesser
 r/b Judi Roseberg

11:30 am In Thanksgiving r/b Castillo family

FRIDAY - JANUARY 2

9:00 am Intentions of the family of Nicholas
 DiPaolo r/b Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa

SATURDAY—JANUARY 3

9:00 am Living & deceased members of the parish
 4:30 pm Olga V. Mignone r/b Donald & Bill Mignone

SUNDAY—JANUARY 4

8:30 am Dorothy Wolenter
 r/b Ron & Barbara Massey
 10:00 am Emilio Bruno & Antonio Del Vecchio
 r/b Bruno family
 Edward North r/b Bob & Jessica Lane
 Family of Nicholas DiPaolo
 r/b Gail & Ron Bizzoso
 11:30 am Kay Frain r/b Jack Boesch

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

DECEMBER - That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will.



Thank you to all who helped make our Bake Sale a success—the pretzel makers, pie

makers, those who donated baked goods to sell and last, but not least...to those that purchased the goodies! We are truly a great parish! Thank you one and all.

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



Maria Storms	Betty O'Donnell
Helen Kane	John B. Kennedy
Phyllis Schadt	Michael Kapischke
Ron Massey	Pauline Rosberg
Mary Cowan	Stanley Kochanek
Claire Boylan	Jerry McMenamin
Frank Colbert	Joseph Console
Don Kreal	Geralyn Coticone
Jean Colbert	George Sweeten
Pat Barton	Pasquale DiFronzo
Leila Lore	Angelo DiGiacomo
Ed Rivero	Wayne Mauri, Sr.
Pat Beaney	Francesca Capra
YunYun Shen	Deacon Jim Smith
Rose Hession	Margaret Crawford
Sue Hagan	Mary Ellen Lepre
Anna Bedrick	Pat Suralik
Pat Brink	Marian Kapischke
Julia Lepre	Donna Gould
Ann Vigrass	Martha Whiting
Ted Uhlman	Thomas Houston
Rick Linn	Mena Ravena

Carlos Santiago
 Barbara Salpas
 Michael Suralik
 Bill O'Donnell
 Frank Sines
 Teddy Shaffer
 Ethan Killeen
 Bill Botensten
 Chase Lupica
 Frank Cappetta
 Harry Gindele
 Eleanor Regan
 Elva Clark
 Bryan Dietrich
 Vince DeMasi
 GeorgeGadren

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...



SSgt Samuel Brough, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, 1Lt. Col. Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, and Lt. Col. Karl Rohr.

Stewards Offer Forgiveness

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive."
Colossians 3:13b

Forgiveness—one of the hardest things for people to do. It's amazing how long we can hold a grudge or be angry with someone. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, take this opportunity to give the gift of forgiveness to someone—maybe someone in your family, maybe a friend, maybe a co-worker or, maybe yourself.

Second Grade Christmas Play December 16, 2014



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 Epiphany of the Lord, January 4, 2015 - Matthew 2:1-12

(Magi from the east heard of the birth of the King of the Jews (Jesus). They came to Jerusalem in search of this King. Herod heard about this and was anxious to know about this newborn king - for reasons different from the Magi. Herod investigates. The king is in Bethlehem, Herod is told. Herod plots...) "Go and search diligently for the child," Herod says. "When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king, they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was... They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Commentary:

The Magi find Jesus because they are open to being led by God who uses a star and a dream. Herod never finds Jesus - his desire is to satisfy his own needs. The astounding events portrayed in this gospel (a star leading strangers from the east, Herod's hypocrisy, warning dreams) indicate to us that God's offer of salvation will be extended to all people and will not be thwarted. The gospel presents a choice to us: do we want to be like Herod or like the Magi?

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?



Sr. - High School students
Jr. - 5th through 8th grades


Thank You for helping to make the Christmas party for the 1st & 2nd graders at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception a huge success! Stay tuned for pictures!

All 5th—12th graders welcome!
Save the dates!

STM youth Jan. 10th Service Event—Babysitting
Jan. 18th MLK Service Day
Jan. 23rd Open Gym Night

Tuesday Night High School Youth Group
Meetings 7:15 –8:15 pm!
Games Faith Discussions* Games*
Bring Friends!



 We are looking to develop a Teen Choir and a Teen Bible Study!
Email youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org to receive reminders and updates!

Any questions or ideas for the youth group call Katie Witts, YG Coordinator, at 305-2914.

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

The Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. Tens of thousands of couples have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it. Retrouvaille is not just a social gathering or a series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relationship in your marriage. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 13—15 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.** For more information, or to register for our upcoming weekend, visit our website at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TIME TO CELEBRATE THE HOLY DAYS: There will be **NO Religious Education classes on Tuesday, December 23rd and Tuesday, December 30th.** Classes resume on Tuesday, January 6th, 2015. **Have a wonderful CHRISTMAS and a blessed NEW YEAR!**

Sr. Bozena Tyborowska, 424-3212 - ext. 106

Thank you to the St. Thomas More volunteers for helping the **Cherry Hill Food and Outreach Pantry** distribute turkeys to 390 clients for Thanksgiving during our four sessions.