

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: 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, Pastor
 Deacon Michael Scott
 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
 Church Environment Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Antonina Nicdao 751-6320
 Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Dolores Kreal 988-0271
 Ch. Art Environment Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Eucharistic Ministers Dom Sacca
 Lectors Pat Maggart 424-3212
 Linen Committee Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
 Sacristans Frank Krenslak 309-1999

Social Development

Bridge Groups Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
 June Garafano 229-7461
 Lin Lyon 795-4396
 Career Ministry Committee 424-3212
 Funsters (over 50 club) Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
 Parish Festival Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031
 Women's Club

Administration

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME , FEBRUARY 7, 2016

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: Sister Ann Byrnes and John Mohan

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

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088

Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



Join the Mardi Gras! Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Feb. 9th, 5-7 PM

Tickets on sale after ALL Masses Jan. 31st & Feb. 7th. \$4 for Adults; \$2.50

Ages 6 -12; \$1 1-5 yrs. old. Price includes:

Pancakes, sausage, applesauce, beverage, dessert & music. Come join the fun!

Sponsored by St. Thomas More Women's Club

February 10th is Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday schedule:

6:45 & 9:00 am Mass

4:30 pm Service

7:00 pm Mass

Stations of the Cross will be held at 7pm on Friday evenings in Lent beginning February 12, 2016. All are encouraged to attend



SOUP AND SCRIPTURE

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

February 17th, 24th, March 2nd, 9th, & 16th—6:00 pm— Join us for simple and delicious homemade soup

suppers with a brief meditation on the Holy

Scriptures. Fr. Johnson will

reflect with us on the prayers

of Jesus in the Gospels, ask-

ing how we may pray more

simply and deeply. Children

with parents are most welcome. A Bible story session for young children will be provided.

For meal planning purposes, we ask that you please call the Parish Office if you are planning to attend 424-3212.



Parish Collection for January 31, 2016 was \$11,093.00 and 170 envelopes were used. Online donations were \$695.00 from 15 donors. As always, thank you for your generosity.

Stewardship Reflection— Stewardship Means 'Send Me'

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?'. 'Here I am,' I said. 'Send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)

Every day— in little ways and in big ways—God asks,

"Whom shall I send?" Whether it is

someone to take on a new ministry or

just someone to open a door for a

stranger, God constantly provides

doors of **Stewardship** opportunity.

The next time you hear God calling,

have the courage to walk through the

door and say, "Here I am, Lord."



The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (no.75)

Fr. Phillip M. Johnson

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

The Corporal Works of Mercy: Burying the Dead

Feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, burying the dead: these are the seven corporal works of mercy. The first six of these require little explanation. Almost all who honor religion will honor these works of mercy, even if many seldom practice them. By utter necessity, the seventh corporal work of mercy, the *burial of the dead*, is not, strictly speaking, neglected. But I am not sure its quality of mercy is well understood.

Perhaps the place to start reflecting on this question is to remember those disastrous moments when the burying of the dead became an excruciating public problem. I think first of the day we have come to call “9/11”, when finding and sorting and identifying the dead posed so painful a challenge. During those days, fragments of crushed and blasted bodies of the dead were collected in large sterile containers some distance from “ground zero”. The hope was that, through the wonders of forensic science, many who grieved the dead would be able to claim at least some part of their loved ones for burial.

The work of sorting would go on for years. But in those first few days after the attack, a young Jewish woman began to show up at the storage sites in order to “say Shiva” according to Jewish funeral custom. Others soon joined her in this wake. And with these gestures of mercy, a site of horror became for a few days a consecrated site of religious faith and human solidarity.

We add to this memory of mercy another one—preserved by St. John the Apostle—concerning the burial of our Lord. Immediately after his death “*Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus. . . asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body. Nicodemus . . . also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes. . . . They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom*” (John 19:38-41). That the Gospel Tradition preserves the names of these two men, along with details of the lavish care of the body of Jesus, helps us to glimpse the inner meaning of this *corporal* work of mercy.

The burial of the dead is not simply an act of disposal. It is an act of love, in which the grieving are comforted and the life of the departed are remembered with reverence and love. For to God our Father, each human being—body, soul, and spirit—is a whole universe of meaning. And it is precisely the *body* that we lay to rest with hope and prayer. For the body is the means by which we are present to one another. The human body, each one unique, is a “sacrament” of the human personality (John Paul II). With this last act of *corporal* care, we witness to the gospel promise of the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come.

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FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 7, 2016

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for FEBRUARY 13/14, 2016

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30pm	Msgr. Graham	Carmen Rich	Deacon Scott, T. Petrone Sr. Sophia	T. Andraka	N. Ortega J. Wachman
8:30 am	Father Johnson	Rob Rich	B. Lento, J. Singson, R. VanderWeilen	J. Vecchiola	M. & G. Gray
10:00 am	Father Johnson	Becca/ Choir Julie	K. Glover, J. DeMichele M. Santiago	F. Eggles	K. & K. Johnson A. D'Auria
11:30 am	Father Johnson	Becca Julie	B. Haughwout, M. Dwyer L. Levin	V. Marchesani	S. Russo, M. Carr M. Mueller

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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Congratulations to the 27 children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last weekend! It was a wonderful celebration and it was nice to see all of the family support and participation. Our prayers are with you and your families at this very special time in your life. Special thanks to catechists and parents for helping to prepare the children.

The 27 children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation January 30, 2016:
Simona Campisi; Zoey Carmody; Ella Crafton; Cole DeGrace; Shannon DeGrace; Matthew Devlin; Katelyn Dolch; Sophia Famador; Michael Fasnacht; Kira Fowler; John Galati; Hailey Guaracino; Kylie Hart; Emma Kuzinski; Madelyn LaForm; Ryan Moyer; Elizabeth Mueller; Matthew Mueller; Brandon Puerschner; Luis Rivera; Dino Raffaele Russo; Adrianna Schwartz; Isabella Vascicin (January 16, 2016); Patrick Weinstein; Rosie Widmer; Matthew Williams; Ryan Witts.

The fifth Confirmation I preparatory class for all seventh grade students will be held on Sunday, February 7th from 11:00 am—12:30 pm in the St. Thomas More Hall. All seventh grade students are expected to attend that class as well as the 10:00 am Mass.

Liturgy of the Word for children is offered at the 10:00 am Mass. All children ages 4 through 1st grade are welcome. No registration is needed.

There will be **NO Parish Religious Education Program** classes on Tuesday, Feb. 9th. However, all students from both the afternoon and evening classes are expected to attend the children's Ash Wednesday Prayer Service February 10th at 4:30 pm. Ashes will be distributed. Parents are welcome to attend.

Have a blessed week!

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

STM Youth

Lent begins this week. Lent is the season for us in the Catholic Church to reflect on the year, repent for our sins and grow closer to God. We do this through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Almsgiving is often thought of as giving money, but it is also giving of yourself, time and talent. This year as the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis asks that "the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy." STM Youth, Religious Education and the parish are offering many ways for you to celebrate and experience God's Mercy through Lent and the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Please participate as much as possible, invite your family and friends to join you. Parents: we encourage you to attend these events with your children.

Feb. 10th: Ash Wednesday 4:30 pm Service. All students are expected to attend.

Saturday, Feb. 13 Ronald McDonald House – 8:30 am-noon. STM Youth will cook and serve breakfast, play games and do crafts with patients and their families at the Ronald McDonald House.

Feb. 16: Service hour before RE 6-7pm

Wednesdays Feb. 17 & 24, March 2, 9 & 16 6:00 pm Soup and Scripture!

Feb. 21, Mar. 20 & April 17– St. Mary's Home 9:30 – 11:30 am

Tuesday, Feb. 23: Welcome the Stranger 4pm at Catholic Charities in Camden

Tuesdays, Mar. 8th & 15th Service Hour

Friday, Mar. 11: Students lead Stations of the Cross

Sunday, Mar. 13 Youth Congress #showknowmercy!
 Grades 8—12

I pray you and your family can join us for the events listed above. If you have any questions or to RSVP to the above please contact ne, cell856-305-2914 or youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 7, 2016



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 9:00 am** Living & deceased members of the parish
4:30 pm John & Dolores Papotto
 r/b Deacon Michael & Josephine Welsh

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 8:30 am** Jim Mueller
 r/b Sheila Moore
10:00 am Antoinette Cerquitella
 r/b Ron & Gail Bizzoso
Joe Kenney
 r/b Vince & Emelia Marchesani
11:30 am Vincenzo Scotto
 r/b daughter, Agata Scotto

MONDAY—FEBRUARY 8

- 6:45 am** Vocations
9:00 am Edward J. Murray
 r/b Cecilia T. Murray

TUESDAY—FEBRUARY 9

- 6:45 am** Our Christian brothers and sisters around the world
9:00 am Antoinette Cerquitella
 r/b Tobin family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 6:45 am** intentions of Mullan—McNabb family
9:00 am Mervyn de Guzman
 r/b Tom & Marie Manalo
7:00 pm People of the Parish

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 6:45 am** Lenten intentions of our parishioners
9:00 am Catherine & Charles Lindus r/b family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 6:45 am** People of the parish
9:00 am Peter & Bernie Kapischke
 r/b Marian Kapischke

SATURDAY—FEBRUARY 13

- 9:00 am** Living & deceased members of the parish
4:30 pm Anna Bruno r/b Bruno family

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 14

- 8:30 am** Antoinette Cerquitella
 r/b Eileen & Joe Withers
10:00 am Our loved ones living and deceased
11:30 am John & Helen Bantivoglio
 r/b children

Papal Intentions for the month of February: That we may take good care of creation—a gift freely given—cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE SICK...



Pat Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Anna Bedrick, Pat Brink, Francesca Capra, Elva Clark, Frank Colbert, Sean Colbert, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Geralyn Coticone, Mary Cowan, Margaret Crawford, Bryan Dietrich, Pasquale DiFronzo, Angelo DiGiacomo, Santino Fiorelli, George Gadren, Harry Gindele, Sue Hagan, Thomas Houston, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Peggy Kiefner, Stan Kochanek, Don Kreal, Julia Lepre, Mary Ellen Lepre, Chase Lupica, Joan Maguire, Marie Manalo, Ron Massey, Wayne Mauri, Sr., Jerry McMenamin, Nick Mitidieri, Hilda K. Pellerito, Fred Petrone, John Ravena, Mena Ravena, Ed Rivero, Pauline Rosberg, Barbara Salpas, Carlos Santiago, Phyllis Schadt, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Frank Sines, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Maria Storms, Samuel Stafford, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, George Sweeten, Marcy Toub, Ted Uhlman, Ann Vigrass.



THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

SSgt Samuel Brough, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Spc. Peter DeCrescenzo, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, 1Lt. Col. Ryan Orfe, and Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa

House of Charity 2016 Campaign *Called to Mercy*



By your sacrificial gift to the HOUSE OF CHARITY, you are responding to God's call to share His compassion and love with others. We ask you to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial pledge that will assist countless families who do not have the corporal or spiritual benefits that we enjoy.

St. Thomas More Parish 2016 House of Charity goal: \$115,005.00. We thank you for your generosity and our prayer is that with God's help and your generous sacrificial gift we will make and exceed our parish goal.

Spring Benefit Dinner Dance Sunday, March 13, 2016

3:00pm—7:00 pm Auletto's Caterers

1849 Cooper Street, Almonesson

Donation \$50 per person

Sponsored by the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Infant Jesus

For tickets or more information please call 428-8834.

Cherry Hill Food Pantry—New location: 1463 Brace Rd., Cherry Hill. (Tutti Toscani shopping center, park in back of Food Pantry, please).

Volunteer opportunities are:

- Tuesday, Feb. 23rd: 5-7:30 pm
- Thursday, Feb. 25th: 9:30 am—1:00 pm
- Tuesday, Mar. 1st: 5:00—7:30 pm
- Thursday, Mar. 3rd: 9:30 am—1:00 pm

Please call Elaine at 428-8431 or email: elainevbeckman@gmail.com



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 7, 2016

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 First Sunday of Lent, February 14, 2016 – Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, One does not live on bread alone." (Two more times, Jesus was tempted. Each time, He rejected the temptation.) When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

Commentary:

Jesus struggled with the difficult possibilities open to him in carrying out his mission. This struggle lasted right up to the agony in the garden where He is tempted to reject the suffering He is about to undergo. As a human being, Jesus was always free to choose his path. But Jesus was also conscious of his loyalty and relationship with God. Nothing will deter Jesus from establishing the Kingdom of God.

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?

Look at the moral decline of our nation over the past 43 years. Abortion is the foundation upon which a violent nation has been built. When a baby in the womb can be killed so easily it leads to disrespect for life. Violence breeds violence.



Al Mac Elrath, *Respect Life Coordinator* -

779-7130

St. Thomas More Movie Night
Feb. 13th at 6:30 pm

Romero experiences the poverty of his people and their suffering at the hands of the military government. More and more he takes an active role in opposing the brutalization of his people, opposing also his bishops who preferred to deal with purely spiritual matters.



All are welcome. Contact: Marianne Gorin 856-346-1811 or Joe Centonze 856-751-7103; email Joecent4@gmail.com



EQUAL EXCHANGE Coffee for sale here (at cost) in the St. Thomas More Parish gathering space the second weekend of every month after all Masses, beginning next weekend.

This is NOT a fund raiser

Mercy Works for February: Visit the Sick. As Disciples of Christ and members of His Church, we are all called upon to be His healing hands, extending mercy and love to those among us who are ill. Those who are sick are so often forgotten or avoided. These individuals still have much to offer to those who take the time to visit and comfort them.

Each week this month, this space will feature an idea of what you might consider doing during this month dedicated to caring for the sick: This week's suggestion: Give blood. Participate in the next blood drive within your community or at your work place.

GIVE BACK WITH OUTBACK

We invite you to join us at Marlton Outback Steakhouse for the Give Back Event Benefiting St. Thomas More / St. Mary's Knights of Columbus!

Relax and enjoy the fresh flavors of Outback, and when you present this flyer, we'll proudly donate 20% of your total check to the ST. THOMAS MORE / ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #6173

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016
TIME: 11:00AM - 9:30PM

MARLTON | 901 Route 73 South | (856) 983-0921
Open daily for lunch at 11am