

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 28, 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



House of Charity 2016 Campaign *Called to Mercy*

Thank you to those who have already pledged.
If you made a pledge to the House of Charity directly or online, please call the Parish Office so your donation can be included in our totals.

To make a pledge please pick up a Pledge card which is available in the gathering space and mail in or drop off at the parish office.

To date, we have collected donations and pledges in the amount of \$40,725.00 from 109 gifts. Our parish goal this year is \$115,005.00 and we will need everyone's help to meet and exceed this goal.



Stations of the Cross will be held in the Chapel at 7pm on Friday evenings in Lent. All are encouraged to attend.

SOUP AND SCRIPTURE WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT



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, asking how we may pray more simply and deeply. Children with parents are most welcome. A Bible story session for young children will be provided.

Please call the Parish Office if you are planning to attend 424-3212.



Total Parish Collection for February 21, 2016 was \$10,343.00 and 226 envelopes and online donors were recorded. As always, thank you for your generosity to our parish.



Attention Sandwich Makers!
9:30 am this Wednesday, March 2nd
we will be making sandwiches. See you in the St. Thomas More Hall after the 9:00 am Mass.

Stewardship Reflection— Stewards Nurture and Return Gifts

"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'" Luke 13: 7

Are you like the barren fig tree? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called as Christian Stewards to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.



St. Thomas More Parish Mission

Theme: **The Art of Cultivation**

To cultivate something is to help it grow, to nurture it into full bloom!

The Oblate team of Fathers Greenfield and Strong will invite us to cultivate three special Lenten practices:

- ▶ **The art of hospitality as a Christian posture for everyday living.**
- ▶ **The process of forgiveness as a moment by moment challenge to “let go and let God”.**
- ▶ **And the embrace of wholeness as an invitation to accept our unique and developing personalities as gifts from the Lord.**

Each evening Father Jim or Father Barry will help us cultivate one of the themes and it will be developed with attention to **Scripture, spirituality and story.**



Fr. Jim Greenfield

Sunday/Monday/Tuesday

March 6 –8 7:00 PM

St. Thomas More Church



Fr. Barry Strong

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 28, 2016

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for MARCH 5/6

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30pm	Monsignor Graham	Becca/Choir Julie	P. & N. Kirincic Sr. Sophia	J. Mohan	A. D'Auria J. Wachman
8:30 am	Father Rossi	Rob Rich	J. Singson, B. Lento R. VanderWeilen	D. Miller	M. & G. Gray S. Russo
10:00 am	Father Johnson	Jerry Julie	D. & M. Thomas M. Santiago	F. Eggles	C. & J. McFadden T. Kenny
11:30 am	Father Johnson	Dolores Julie	G. Gadren, M. Ciccotta M. Dwyer	R. Ciccotta	I. & C. Fulton M. Mueller

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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The sixth **Confirmation II Preparatory class** will be held on **Sunday, February 28th from 11:00 to 12:30 pm** in the **St. Thomas More Hall**. All eighth grade students are expected to attend. **Service hours are due.**

The Stations of the Cross will be held on Tuesday, March 8th, for students in grades 1-4 of our Religious Education Program.

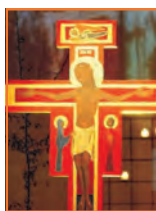
Friday, March 11 at 7:00 pm, Youth Lead Stations of the Cross

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.

Have a blessed week!

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

Lenten Taize Prayer Service



A Taize worship service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, a period of silence, and icons. All parishioners are invited to attend this Lenten prayer service on **Monday, February 29th at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.**

Sponsored by the Women's Club.

STM Youth

Calendar of Upcoming STM Youth Group Events
(Please let Katie know in which events you plan to participate)

6:00 PM Soup & Scripture! Wednesdays March 2nd, 9th & 16th—Youth will help set up, serve, clean up, help with the young children and participate in the Scripture Study.

February 21, March 20th, & April 7 9:30—11:30am:—St. Mary's Home— Assist the residents going to Mass, attend Mass then join the residents for activities and coffee.

Tuesday, March 8th & 15th Service Hour before Religious Education

March 11th (Friday): 7:00 pm Youth lead Stations of the Cross. ****Our regular Friday evening Stations of the Cross will be lead and acted out by the youth of our Religious Education Program. All 5th—8th grade students are expected to attend.****

Sunday, March 13th: 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 me, cell #: 856-305-2914 or youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org**

Love and prayers, Katie Witts
STM Youth Group Coordinator

24 Hours for the Lord, March 4-5
24 hours of Adoration and Penance

Holy Child Parish
13 E. Evesham Rd.
Runnemede, NJ

For more information:
holychildparish@comcast.net

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 28, 2016



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY—FEBRUARY 27

- 9:00 am Living & deceased members of the parish
- 4:30 pm M/M Eugene Barbieri
r/b Marianne & Tony Orlando

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 28

- 8:30 am Antoinette Cerquitella
r/b Beverly & Vincent DeMasi & family
- 10:00 am David M. DeTato
- 11:30 am Roseann Smith Lankford
r/b Don & Dolores Kreal

MONDAY—FEBRUARY 29

- 6:45 am Hunter Snapp r/b Colon family
- 9:00 am Joe Kenney r/b Cindy Zielinski

TUESDAY—MARCH 1

- 6:45 am Hunter Snapp r/b Colon family
- 9:00 am Michael Keating
r/b Bill & Ann Vigrass

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

- 6:45 am Hunter Snapp r/b Colon family
- 9:00 am Edward J. Murray
r/b Cecilia T. Murray

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

- 6:45 am Joseph Yachim r/b Patricia Phillips
- 9:00 am Joe Zielinski r/b wife, Cindy
Anthony Bruno
r/b wife

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

- 6:45 am Artemio Cuisia
- 9:00 am William Gough, Jr.
r/b Carol Koelsch

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

- 9:00 am Living & deceased members of the parish
- 4:30 pm Mary De Vito
r/b Marianne & Tony Orlando

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

- 8:30 am Phyllis Cuddihy
r/b Beverly & Vince DeMasi
- 10:00 am Gerarda Del Vecchio
r/b Bruno family
- 11:30 am Kay Frain
r/b Jack Boesch

Papal Intentions for the Month of March: That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

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 Kapschke, Stephen Kaye, John B. Kennedy, Peggy Kieflner, Stan Kochanek, Don Kreal, Julia Lepre, Mary Ellen Lepre, Chase Lupica, Joan Maguire, Marie Manalo, Ron Massey, Wayne Mauri, Sr., Jerry McMenamin, 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



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:
David M. DeTato (Jeanine McMenamin's father)
Artemio Cuisia (Irene Rellosa's brother)

Women's Club News

- February 29th: 7:00 pm Taize Prayer Service**
Women's Club sponsoring, members are encouraged to attend
- March 2nd: 9:30 am, Sandwich Making** for Cathedral Kitchen, Parish Hall
- March 2nd 1:00 pm Women's Club Board Meeting**
- March 2, 9, 16 : 6:00 pm Soup & Scripture**, Parish Hall, members encouraged to attend
- March 6, 7, 8: 7:00 pm Parish Mission**, members are encouraged to attend
- March 30: 12 noon Game Day**, bring bag lunch, desserts provided
- April 17: 5:30 pm Progressive Dinner**, Café Aldo Lamberti
Seating limited to 100 people. Make your reservations early.

Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. The next program begins on the weekend of April 15—17 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. for more information visit the website: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call **1-800-470-2230**. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential. When accessing information online, be sure to use the Pennsylvania and Delaware Valley as your destination.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 28, 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 Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 6, 2016 – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

(The parable of the Prodigal Son)

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son." (The father ordered a feast to celebrate the young son's return. The older son, on hearing about the feast grew angry and jealous. He had been faithful and had no party. His younger brother had strayed from home and now was being rewarded with a feast). The father said to the older son, "My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

Commentary:

Jesus says to the prodigal in all of us: "You do have a father like this. He is waiting for you to find yourself, your true self made in his image and likeness, and come on home. Never mind where you've been or what you did. The most important thing is who you are: a child of God. There's not a thing you can do to lose that identity. The party waits for you."

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 Commentary resonates with me?

Would that we, the children of light, were as industrious as the forces of darkness. That is the challenge. For too long we have been silent, taught by our culture that faith is a private thing. It is time that we step forward and be witnesses to the truth in everything we do. We must speak out against abortion and euthanasia.



Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

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.

One great way to care for the sick this month and every month: Offer to assist caregivers of chronically sick family members on a one-time or periodic basis. Give caregivers time off from their care-giving responsibilities so they can rest, complete personal chores, or enjoy a relaxing break.

Second Collection this weekend– **Black and Indian Mission Collection.**

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION WEEKEND OF MARCH 5/6

Each time we encounter a suffering person, we encounter Jesus in disguise. The Catholic Relief Services collection funds six Catholic agencies that serve the disguised Jesus in our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. **Your support of this collection is an opportunity to help Jesus in disguise.**



FOOD DRIVE 2016

Next week, March 6, we will be participating in the **faithFULL Food Drive** with parishes and schools across the Diocese of Camden. **Pick up your bags after Mass this weekend and return next with suggested food items.**

All food donated at St. Thomas More Church will be delivered to the **Cherry Hill Food Bank.**

Are you looking for a different and thoughtful gift? First Communion? Confirmation? Marriage? New Job? Just Because?

A Mass card for "Special Intentions" is a delight to receive. The 2016 Mass Book has Mass intentions still available.

We cordially invite you, if you attend the Masses that you arrange for OR if the Special Intention is yours, to make yourselves known so that you may be a part of the Offertory Gifts procession. It would be a fitting tribute to the memories and intentions that the Mass has for you personally.

**Congratulations to Claire McFadden
For being named to the 1st Semester Honor
Roll of 2015-2016 at Merion Mercy Academy.**



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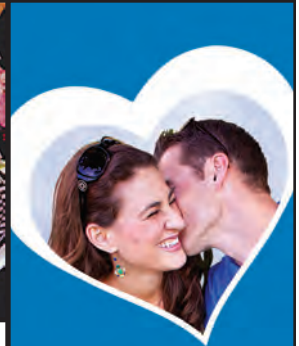
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