St. Thomas More Church

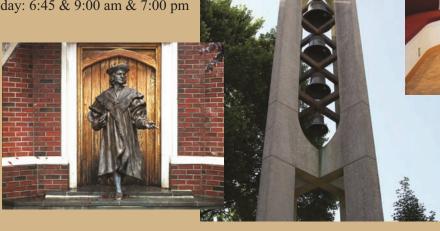
1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003 856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411

Web Site: http://stthomasmorenj.org/ • E-mail: sthomasmore@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 in Lent: 3:00-4:00 pm or any time by appointment

Reverend Phillip M. Johnson, Pastor
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
Miriam Gilbert, 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	I-1 M-1	424 2212	Worship Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212
Parish Trustees	John Mohan Greta Tyrrell	424-3212 424-3212		Pat Maggart *	
	Greta Tyrren	12 1 32 12	Church Environment	Ann Vigrass Antonina Nicdao	428-7217 751-6320
Christian Life/Education			Ch. Art Environment	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Bereavement	Staff	424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers Lectors	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Sacristans	Dom Sacca	
Knights of Columbus	Henry Glover	751-9360 795-1160		Pat Maggart Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
Marriage Formation Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Bob/Liz Scarpa Miriam Gilbert	424-3212	Ushers	Frank Krenslak	309-1999
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan	795-6137	Social Development		
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath	779-7130	Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212	F (50 11)	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053	Funsters (over 50 club) Parish Festival	Lin Lyon Committee	795-4396 424-3212
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	344-7454	Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073		Lorraine Kennedy	489-0031
St. Wincont de Boul	Denise Radziwill	424-0494 424-3212	Administration		
St. Vincent de Paul Stewardship	Stan Thompson Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212	House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Youth Ministry	Katie Witts	305-2914	Parish Finance Council Parish Pastoral Council	Robert Crawford Marie Enny	424-3212 751-8893
			Tarish Tastorar Council	Trium Emily	751-0075

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, 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 6:30 - 7:45 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

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088 Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing

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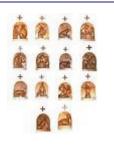
Your *House of Charity* gift supports Ministry with the Deaf and Persons with Disabilities: This essential ministry nurtures and assists those facing special physical challenges which affect their access to the sacramental life of the Church and the support of our community of faith.

Your gift matters.

Support the 2017 **House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal** www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

Our House of Charity-Bishop's Annual Appeal 2017 goal is \$ 117, 880. We will need the help of all parishioners to meet and exceed this goal. We have received gifts totaling \$59, 678. Thanks to all who have contributed.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Chapel at 7:00 pm every Friday evening in Lent. All are encouraged to attend.



"... if My people, who are called by My Name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me and stop their evil ways, I will heal their land." 2nd Chronicles 7: 14



The collection for Sunday, February 26, 2017 was \$8,835.00 from 183 donors. As always, thank you for your generosity to our parish.

Stewardship Reflection: First Sunday of Lent



"It is written: the Lord, your God shall you worship, Him alone shall you serve."
Matthew 4:10

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 turn away from power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. How is God calling you to serve?

LENTEN REGULATIONS 2017

Abstinence from meat: All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

Fasting: All Catholics between the ages of 19 and 59 are bound also to observe the Law of Fast on the following days: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting, that is eating less, involves limiting oneself to a full meal and avoiding food between meals. Lighter nourishment may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

Prayer & Penance: The entire season of Lent should be observed in a spirit of prayer and penance. Spending extra time in prayer (such as the Rosary or Stations of the Cross) or Bible study, attending daily Mass or Eucharistic Adoration, voluntary sacrifice and self-denial, combined with works of charity and service to others, are all excellent ways to obey the Lord's command to reform our lives and to prepare for the joyful celebration of Easter.

Easter Duty: All Catholics who have reached the age of reason must confess their serious sins in the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year. They must also receive Holy Communion at least once during the Easter season, which this year extends from March 5th, the first Sunday of Lent, until Trinity Sunday, June 11th.

2017 Lenten Activities Available at St. Thomas More

Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 7:00 pm **Confessions**: 3:00 –4:00 pm Saturdays in Lent

Soup and Scripture: 6:00 pm Wednesdays, March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th

Parish Mission: 7:00 pm March 20th, 21st, & 22nd.

Soup and Scripture

6:00 pm Wednesday Evenings March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th in the St. Thomas More Hall.



Join us for simple and delicious homemade soup suppers with a brief meditation on the Holy Scriptures. Fr. Johnson will reflect with us on Peter, John and Mary as we meet them in St. John's Gospel. Gather with other parishioners for these Lenten reflections.

We are looking for volunteers to make and share their favorite homemade soups. For meal planning purposes, and to coordinate soup making schedules, we ask that you please call the Parish Office if you are planning to attend 424-3212.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE for MARCH 11/12

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 pm	Father Johnson	Youth Ensemble Julie	G. Tyrrell, K. Wislocky R. Crawford	D. Miller	L. & Z. Smith K. Wieland
8:30 am	Father Rossi	Carmen Rich	B. Lento, P. Lavala B. Massey	R. Pierce	M. Widmer A. Kuzinski
10:00 am	Father Johnson	Becca/Choir Julie	J. DeMichele, J. Mazzagatti A. Thompson	D. Mayfield	T. Kenny A. Librojo JD Moyer
11:30 am	Father Johnson	Becca Julie	M. Gorin, B. Haughwout H. Protzman	J. Kuchler	D. Ha H. Kodluk

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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

March Dates of Importance:

5th: Confirmation I: 11:00am St. Thomas More Hall **12th: Confirmation II**: 11:00 am St. Thomas More Hall

18th: Confirmation II Retreat 9:00am—12:30pm in the St. Thomas More Hall & Rehearsal 1:00 pm in the Church. Sponsors are to be at the Church before 1:00 pm.

21st: Confirmation Interviews during class time 27th: Confirmation 5:00 pm— Confirmandi & Sponsors arrive at 4:15 pm.

Liturgy of the Word for Children—This program is offered at the 10:00 Mass. All children ages 4 thru first grade are welcome. No registration is needed.

Miriam Gilbert 424-3212 ext. 106

Celebrate St. Patrick Friday, March 17, 2017 10:00 am—2:00 pm. In the morning, Sister Meg Brown, RSM will share the characteristics of Celtic Spirituality. This will be followed by a light lunch and the Emerald Isle Step Dancers. The fee is \$10. Only 50 places available. Call the Parish Office to register.



Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting at 9:30am, Thursday, March 9th in St. Thomas More Hall.

STM Youth

DYC17 Do You Thirst? Teens in grades 8—12 are invited to the DYC (Diocesan Youth Congress) for teen leaders on Sunday, March 19th 2017, at Christ the Redeemer Parish in Atco. This day-ling event provides teens the opportunity to hone Christian leadership skills, to live their faith in a way that will challenge and change their world. The schedule includes inspiring prayer, leadership sessions and dynamic national speakers. Contact Katie Witts or Fr. Johnson for more information or visit Youth Ministries at www.camdendiocese.org for more information. Be an agent of change in your parish!



Helpers needed for Soup and Scripture Series on Wednesdays during Lent. We need teens to volunteer as babysitters, servers and



cleaners. Contact Katie.



Save the date: March 25th 8:00am—noon. Serving breakfast at New Visions Homeless Shelter in Camden. Check email for more information.

Any questions about the Youth Group, Please contact Katie Witts youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish

4:30 pm Mary DeVito

r/b daughter, Marianne & Tony Orlando

SUNDAY—MARCH 5

8:30 am William Smith r/b Mike & Pat Maggart 10:00 am Clare DeGrazia r/b Susan Patullo

Maria Morello

r/b Roseann & Robert Luther

Kevin Lachnicht r/b Carol Koelsch

11:30 am Kay Frain r/b Jack Boesch

MONDAY—MARCH 6

6:45 am for an end to anti-Semitism

9:00 am Gerarda Del Vecchio r/b Bruno family

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

6:45 am for our country

9:00 am Anthony Cristiano, Jr.

r/b Jim & Pat Beaney

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

6:45 am for an end to abortion

9:00 am Claire Capone r/b Marian Kapischke

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am William Smith

r/b Sheila & John Mohan

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am Bill Smith r/b Bob & Ann Marie Lento

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish

4:30 pm Thomas Silvestri

r/b Laura Wieland & family

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

8:30 am Eduardo Rivero

r/b Mike & Pat Maggart

10:00 am **Phyllis Schadt** r/b Lynn Ellinger

William Smith r/b Katlyn Taylor

Anthony Cristiano, Jr. r/b Wachman family

11:30 am **John Bantivoglio** r/b children

Please pray for the repose of the souls of: Elaine LaPierre

Tom Redmond



Papal Intentions for the Month of March:

That persecuted Christians might be supported by the prayers and the material help of the whole Church.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK...Pat Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Anna Bedrick, Francesca Capra, Elva Clark, Frank Colbert, Sean Colbert, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Geralyn Coticone, Mary Cowan, Margaret Crawford, Pasquale DiFronzo, Angelo DiGiacomo, Harry Gindele, Sue Hagan, Joseph Hale, Thomas Houston, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, Stephen Kaye, John B. Kennedy, Peggy Kiefner, Stan Kochanek, Don Kreal, Julia Lepre, Mary Ellen Lepre, Dr. Anthony LoBianco, Marie Manalo, Vince Marchesani, Wayne Mauri, Sr., Jerry McMenamin, Youngmork Park, Hilda K Pellerito, Fred Petrone, John Ravena, Amelia Rivero, Pauline Rosberg, Joseph Ryan, Joseph Ryan, Jr., Barbara Salpas, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Frank Sines, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Maria Storms, Samuel Stafford, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, George Sweeten, Christopher Tama, Stephanie Tama,

PRAY FOR



THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

Marcy Toub, Ted Uhlman, Kathryn Wolfe, Ann Vigrass.

2nd Lieutenant Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Captain Anthony R. Cosentino, Spc. Peter DeCrescenzo, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, 2nd Lt. Christopher M. Mawn, PFC Sonny Morrison, 1Lt. Col. Ryan Orfe, and Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa.

Lenten Parish Mission Saint Thomas More Church, Cherry Hill Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday—March 20, 21, 22 7:00 PM—Parish Church



Monday Theme: "Finding our Identity in Christ"

Presenter: Father John Rossi Director of Catholic Identity Paul VI High School



Tuesday
Theme: Jesus asks "What is it you want me to do for you?"
Presenter: Father Terry Odien

Vicar for Clergy



Wednesday Theme: Our Fear of Personal Holiness

Presenter: Father Joseph Capella
Director of Catholic Identity
Camden Catholic High

- * A Parish Mission is an opportunity for renewal and growth in our faith
- * A parish mission is a time of grace

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 Second Sunday of Lent, March 12, 2017 - 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 Commentary resonates with me?



"Things have a price and are for sale. But people have a dignity that is priceless and worth far more than things. We must end abortion and euthanasia today. The future of America depends on it.

Al MacElrath, Respect Life Coordinator 779-7130



FOOD DRIVE 2017

All donations for the 4th Annual *faith*Full Food **Drive** will be accepted on **April 2, 2017** at any Catholic Church in our Diocese. The Diocesan goal this year is 150,000 pounds of food donated on that weekend. *All donations received at St. Thomas More parish will be delivered to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry*.

PostAbortionHelp.org

Throughout the year Lumina offers retreats, healing services, and assists individuals coping with the post-traumatic effects of an abortion experience.

Toll-free confidential Lumina Line: 877-586-4621. Email: Lumina@PostAbortionHelp.org



To all of our recently registered parishioners we say **Welcome!**

Dolores McAveety
Patricia & Ronald Hopkins
George & Mary O'Brien
Christopher, Marisa & Everett DiCicco
Jaclyn, David & Genevieve Bilodeau.
We are glad you are part of the parish family of
St. Thomas More.

Report Sexual Abuse

An independent, toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement. For information or to inquire about counseling services call 1-800-964-6588.

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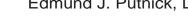
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