

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 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

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 Henry Glover 751-9360
 Marriage Formation Bob/Liz Scarpa 795-1160
 Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Miriam Gilbert 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
 Church Environment Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Antonina Nicdao 751-6320
 Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Dolores Kreal 988-0271
 Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Dom Sacca
 Pat Maggart
 Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
 Frank Krenslak 309-1999

Social Development

Bridge Groups Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 26, 2017

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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...when we help prepare holy priests for the future of His Church

Your **House of Charity** gift helps our young men and our seminarians to become "men of prayer", helps guide them as they discern if they are called and then helps prepare them to stand "in the person of Christ" and serve their bride, the Church, through their preaching and teaching and most of all by celebrating the Sacraments.

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 **\$76, 116.00 from 154 givers**. Thanks to all who have contributed.



Soup and Scripture
6:00 pm March 29th and April 5th in
St. Thomas More Hall.

Join us for simple and delicious homemade soup suppers with a brief meditation on the Holy Scriptures. **Please call the Parish Office if you are planning to attend 424-3212.**



"... 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."



The collection for Sunday, March 19, 2017 was **\$8, 862.00 from 198 donors**. As always, thank you for your generosity to our parish.

Cherry Hill Food Pantry– STM Volunteers Needed!

Tuesday, March 28th: 5—8pm

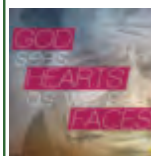
Thursday, March 30th: 10:00 am—1:30 pm

Call Elaine 856-428-8431.

Stewardship Reflection: Fourth Sunday of Lent True Stewardship

Not as man sees does God see, because man looks at the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."

1st. Samuel 16:7



How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our home, clothing, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness are marks of true Stewardship. Instead God will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others, and how we showed that love by the use of our time, talents, and treasure here on earth.

Schedule for Holy Week and Easter 2017



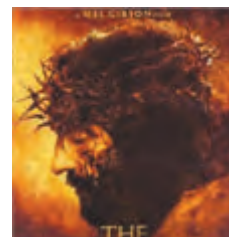
Monday, April 3
Regional Penance Service
St. Thomas More
7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 11
Chrism Mass
Our Lady of Hope
4:00 pm



Thursday, April 13
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 pm

Friday, April 14
3:00 pm Passion of the Christ
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross



Saturday, April 15
12 noon Blessing of Food
8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 16
Easter Sunday
of the Resurrection of the Lord
Masses at 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 26, 2017

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for April 1/2

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 pm	Father Johnson	Mena/Choir Julie	G. Tyrrell, B. Crawford Sr. Sophia	J. Cepeda	C. & R. Cepeda J. Wachman
8:30 am	Father Johnson	Mary Rich	R. VanderWeilen B. Lento, B. Massey	D. Miller	M. Widmer S. Russo
10:00 am	Father Johnson	Christy Julie	D. & ML Thomas J. DeMichele	F. Egges	E. & A. Quay JD Moyer
11:30 am	Father Johnson	Christy Julie	M. Garber, A. Thompson M. Dwyer	V. Marchesani	I. & A. Witting M. Mueller

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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

March & April Dates of Importance:

March

27th: Confirmation 5:00 pm– Confirmandi & Sponsors arrive at 4:15 pm .

April

4th: Stations of the Cross 4:30 during class time

9th: Palm Sunday

13th: Holy Thursday 7:00 pm Mass

14th: Good Friday 3:00pm Passion; 7:00 pm Stations

15th: Holy Saturday 8:00pm Easter Vigil

16th: Easter Sunday 8:30am; 10:00am; 11:30am Mass

22nd: First Communion Retreat 9:30—12noon

29th: First Eucharist 10:00 am

Miriam Gilbert 424-3212 ext. 106

STM Youth

Attention all those ages 14—39! You have a voice in the Catholic Church and we want to hear it. The Diocesan Office of Youth, Young Adult & Campus Ministry is conducting an area wide survey of all Youth, & Young Adults to help understand your spiritual and social needs. This includes all those in middle & high school, college, young singles, young families, etc. We are interested in the responses of those who regularly attend Mass, occasionally attend and those who may have left the Catholic Church or are no longer practicing. *If you are a Teen or Young Adult or if you have Teens or Young Adults in your family, please visit camdendiocese.org/synod-2018/. The survey takes 5—12 minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous. The survey will be live through the end of May.*

April 2nd: St. Mary's Nursing Home Mass with residents.

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

22nd Annual NJ Catholic Youth Rally will be held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ on May 21st. This event is open to all families, youth groups, schools, scouting troops and you! Tickets are \$50 each and includes park admission, all-you-can-eat lunch buffet, return ticket and parking. The Archdiocese of Newark is hosting **6pm Mass at Plymouth Rock Arena**. If you have any questions about this event or would like to purchase tickets, please call Martha A. Scutte at 856-583-2902 or email at martha.scutte@camdendiocese.org.



Fr. Johnson leads the Scripture reflection at the first meeting of Soup And Scripture for this Lent. There are 2 more opportunities to attend. All are welcome.



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish
4:30 pm **Maria Morello** r/b Carol & AJ Ariani

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

8:30 am **Bill Smith**
r/b Charles & Barbara Cerquitella
10:00 am **Diane M. Bittner** r/b Joan & Jack Hyer
Carol Starr r/b Jack & Joan Hyer
Eduardo Rivero
r/b Dudley & Mary Lou Thomas
11:30 am **Finbarr O'Connor** r/b Joseph Kuchler

MONDAY—MARCH 27

6:45 am **Donald MacElrath**
r/b MacElrath family
9:00 am **Suzanne Seidel** r/b Pat & Jim Beaney

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

6:45 am **Patricia Noone** r/b Amy Osborn
9:00 am **Eduardo Rivero**
r/b Mike & Helen Hawksley

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

6:45 am **Msgr. David Budney & family**
9:00 am intentions of **Donna Carol Kapischke**
r/b Marian Kapischke

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

6:45 am **Msgr. David Budney & family**
9:00 am **Helen Cavanaugh** r/b Michael Demcsak

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

6:45 am **Msgr. David Budney & family**
9:00 am **Josephine Morimile**
r/b Vince & Emilia Marchesani

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish
4:30 pm **Eduardo Rivero**
r/b Carol & AJ Ariani

SUNDAY—APRIL 2

8:30 am **Eugene A. Finn, Jr.**
r/b Roseanne & Robert Luther
10:00 am **Maria Morello**
r/b St. Thomas More
Parish Religious Education Program
William Smith r/b Jim & Pat Beaney
Eduardo Rivero
r/b Wachman family
11:30 am **Kay Frain** r/b Jack Boesch

Papal Intentions for the Month of March:

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

St. Thomas More Parish Progressive Dinner
Sunday, April 23, 2017 5:30 –9:30 pm
Caffe Aldo Lamberti Cost: \$49 per person
Reservation Forms with menu selections are available in the Parish Office. Space is limited.
Reserve today. **Reservation deadline: April 13, 2017**

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, infant Joseph Hale, Thomas Houston, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, Stephen Kaye, John B. Kennedy, Peggy Kiefner, Stan Kochanek, Don Kreal, Julia Lepre, Mary Ellen Lepre, 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, Marcy Toub, Ted Uhlman, Kathryn Wolfe, Ann Vigrass.



THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

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.



FOOD DRIVE 2017

All donations for the 4th Annual **faithFull 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. Bags are available for pick-up this weekend. Bags have a list of supplies needed by Cherry Hill Food Pantry. When returning bags next weekend, April 1/2, there will be people in the parking lot to receive your donations thus eliminating the need to carry them into the Church.**

The ‘ides of March’ Wednesday, the 15th proved to be a good day for the sandwich makers in spite of: snow, the bread order not arriving, and the cheese order incorrectly sliced. HOWEVER, there was some sunshine: while I was paying for the bread order at Aldi, an unidentified man heard that the two carts of bread were being used to make sandwiches for the homeless and then **he handed me a \$20 bill** to help pay for the bread!

We managed to make 405 sandwiches, sent 8 loaves of bread for dinner and several bags of bread ends that are used to make bread crumbs. **Thank you sandwich makers and thank you Joe & Grace Sklencar for your continued generosity. Next date: April 19th.**

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 Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 2, 2017 - John 11:1-45

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the One who is coming into the world."

Commentary:

In the Gospel we see a marvelously dramatic example of the power of God to bring life out of death. The essential message for us is Jesus' pronouncement: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

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?



"We are living in a time when human life has been cheapened so much that animals are treated with more care and respect than human beings. It has, for quite some time, been seriously discussed how older, terminally ill, or chronically ill patients should die to save resources for the young and the strong. Is this the kind of world in which we want to live?" Chris Munda "The Purposeful Killing of Human Life. 2/2/17. Al MacElrath, Respect Life Coordinator 779-7130

Feasting during Lent

The dictionary defines a feast as "something that gives unusual or abundant pleasure." Jesus tells us what gives us the most real and lasting joy: it is sharing ourselves in love for others, for our friends, our family and also for our neighbors in need. During Lent, we pay attention to feasting on joy, compassion, service and hope so that we might grow in faith all year long.

Things to feast on...

Prayer

Acts of kindness to others

Forgiveness

Participating at Church, liturgy and Eucharist

Giving our time in service

Participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Acts of service and charity

Giving money, food or clothing to people who are hungry or in need.

Second Collection This Weekend Catholic Relief Services

Your donation to the Catholic Relief Services Collection provides educational opportunities for refugee children, including catch-up and remedial classes. **Please be generous to this collection.**

Come, Holy Spirit!

Bishop Sullivan will be conferring the **Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Thomas More on Monday, March 27, 2017 at 5:00 pm Mass.** All parishioners are invited to attend this celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. *Please keep in your prayers all those who will be confirmed.*



Sr. Meg Brown, RSM and the Emerald Isle Academy Step Dancers participated in the St. Patrick's Day Celebration at St. Thomas More last week.



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