St. Thomas More Church

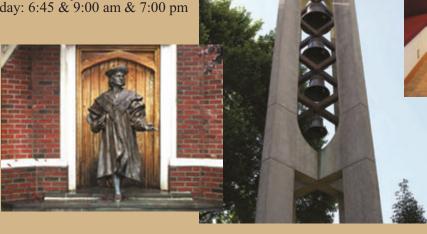
1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003 856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411

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





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

Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 am—12noon Fridays in the Chapel

Reverend Phillip M. Johnson, Pastor
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
Sister Clare Sabini, FMIJ, 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			Worship Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212
Parish Trustees	John Mohan	424-3212	Altai Servers	Pat Maggart	424-3212
	Greta Tyrrell	424-3212	Church Environment	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
			Ch. Art Environment	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Christian Life/Education			Eucharistic Ministers	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
Bereavement	Staff	424-3212	Lectors Linen Committee	Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes	428-7217
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212	Sacristans	Ann Vigrass Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Sacristans	Dom Sacca	720-2712
Knights of Columbus	Henry Glover	751-9360		Pat Maggart	
Marriage Formation	Bob/Liz Scarpa	795-1160		Dave Bongiovanni	
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	424-3212	Ushers	Joe Centonze	
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		Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053	Funsters (over 50 club)	Lin Lyon	795-4396
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	344-7454	Parish Festival Women's Club	Committee Barbara Cerquitella	424-3212 795-7323
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073	Women's Club	Lorraine Kennedy	489-0031
St. Vincent de Paul	Stan Thompson	424-3212			
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212	Administration	C1 11 T	101 0010
Youth Ministry	Katie Witts	305-2914	House of Charity Parish Finance Council	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212 424-3212
,			Parish Pastoral Council	Robert Crawford Marie Enny	751-8893
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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

Roses for LIFE

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be at the entrances to the Church THIS weekend conducting their "Roses For Life" Campaign.



Be sure to purchase a rose in support of Life.



Thank YOU, Sandwich makers! What a wonderful 40 minutes we had, making sandwiches, utensil packs, coffee and conversation. To date, the sandwich making ministry has made 12, 105 sandwiches to

feed the hungry. The next sandwich making date is **October 18th at 9:30 am**. See you there!

Yoga Meditation—October 10, 17, 24, 2017 9:45 am, Parish Hall

The movements and postures used in **Chair Yoga** will improve flexibility, strength, and muscle tone. Michele Carlino leads each session with a meditation theme based on Scripture that will strengthen body, mind, and spirit.



Please call the Parish Office (856-424-3212) to register to attend these sessions.

The collection for Sunday, October 1, 2017 was \$7,677.00 from 163 donors. As always, thank you for your generosity to our parish.



"... 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

Stewardship Reflection: Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time -



"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. "Matthew 21:42

Jesus was the corner stone and He was rejected by the religious and political leaders of His day, as well as ordinary citizens.

Living a **Stewardship** lifestyle may cause you to be "rejected" by others in today's society. For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract strange looks from some. But to others, it is a sign that God is alive and well!

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (no. 103)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

Reflections about professing, praying, thinking, and living the Faith of the Church

The Peace of Christ: a Brief Meditation on Palm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures you let me graze; to safe waters you lead me. You revive my soul. (vv. 1-2)

I have read in a children's book that when a flock of sheep is left alone for a long time it will wander aimlessly, until all the sheep are entirely exhausted. They cannot stop and rest, because they instinctively feel helpless against the predator. In fact, when night comes, a shepherd may have to *make* the sheep rest, gently pulling the legs from under them, so they will lie down.

The sheep cannot rest. Sound familiar? Left alone, they will always be on the move, exhausted by real and imagined dangers. Sound familiar?

Is this why Jesus, the Shepherd of our souls, *commands* us to rest, *charges* us to be at peace (Matt. 7:25ff; 11:28ff; John 14:1ff) —the shepherd gently pulling our legs from under us, spiritually speaking?

Physical exhaustion is sometimes inevitable. A good night's sleep, a few days off, can restore the body. But spiritual exhaustion cannot be banished so easily. Spiritual strength cannot be restored by physical relaxations alone. Spiritual exhaustion—showing itself in anxiety, impatience with others, escape into entertainment, addictions, boredom, lust, over-ambition and *trying to work one's way into favor with God*—gives way only to the gift of God's peace. It is a gift received by faith. *He,* the Good Shepherd, "revives my soul" only by faith.

Without faith we cannot truly rest. The spiritual logic of this truth is beautifully expressed in Psalm 46:10. "Be still and know that I am God". It is in knowing that God alone is God (and so I am not God!) that I find stillness, near the restful waters flowing from God' love.

You guide me along the right path, for the sake of your name. Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil will I fear, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff will give me comfort. (vv. 3-4)

The Shepherd's *rod* is his weapon against the predator. With his *staff* he guides the sheep safely along the right pathway (v. 4). The rod is his judgment; the staff is his promise. Which means that his Cross is at once his rod and his staff. So it is that, in many artistic representations of Christ's resurrection, He comes victorious from the tomb, carrying a cross in his right hand.

St. Paul (perhaps recalling Psalm 23?) speaks of the "peace of God that surpasses all understanding" (Phil. 4:7). It is a peace that does not abandon us even when circumstances betray us, even when we must travel through the "valley of the shadow of death" (v. 4.)

+ + +

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for OCTOBER 14/15

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 pm	Father Johnson	Carmen Joe	K. Wislocky P. & N. Kirincic	K. Wislocky	I. & C. Fulton K. Wieland
8:30 am	Father Johnson	Andy Eugene	P. Lavala, B. Massey R. VanderWeilen	M. Maggart	S. Russo C. Oatway
10:00 am	Father Johnson	Mena/Choir Julie	J. DeMichele, K. Glover M. Huynh	K. McFadden	M. Carr L. Hutchinson T. Kenny
11:30 am	Father Rossi	Julie Julie	A. Thompsom, M. Garber M. Dwyer	J. Arnold	M. & T. Dautle

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

Parish Religious Education

The Parish is a "Family". A family, made up of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and his message. It is a family whose arms and hearts are open to receive others. All baptized have the responsibility to give time, talent and resources to support the "Parish Family" and from it to receive grace through the sacraments and the faith support of the community. In a regular family there are different people, sometimes much alike and at times very different. Yet, it is still "family". The same is for the Church; we may be all very different but with the same Father in heaven. The one thing that binds us together is the "LOVE of the FATHER", through JESUS in the Eucharist.

Parents, consider taking your children to MASS; it is the parish family gathering around JESUS and the Eucharist. Nothing in this world is EQUAL to, or more important than JESUS in the EUCHARIST, absolutely nothing!

During the months of Oct. & Nov. we have the following meetings scheduled:

Sunday, October 8 – Home and summer study Parents Meeting

Sunday, October 15- Second Grade Parents Meeting in the chapel

Sunday, October 29 –8th Grade Parents/Students Meeting in the chapel

Sunday, November 5 -7^{th} grade parents/students meeting in the chapel

All parents meetings are a required part of the Religious Education Program and will be held on Sundays after the 10:00 MASS.

Questions, comments, suggestions – please let us know.

Blessings. Sr. Clare Sabini 856-424-321 ext. 106

WE ARE STILL IN URGENT, DIRE NEED OF A $7^{\rm TH}$ GRADE CATECHIST.

I am sure there is someone out there receiving the call in their heart right now! Who knows, maybe the call comes in the form of a special, different "tweet"....If **YOU** happen to hear God's special invitation or experience a special "tweet" to serve at our parish in teaching 7th grade, please call 424-3212 X 106. AMEN

STM Youth

Calling all Youth! Have fun and help others! We need young people to spread God's love and bring kindness to our hurting world.

To receive text messages about upcoming events, text to: 81010; message @stmyg17

Friday, October 20th: Hayride at Springdale Farms at 7:00 pm. Cost is \$15 per person. Permission forms in the Gathering Space.

Saturday, November 4th: Service Day with Reflection, More info to come!

Sunday, December 10th or 17th (date TBA) Christmas Party for kids in Camden

High School Book Club coming soon! Text Katie if you are interested. Meeting time/location TBD.

STM Youth is NOT mandatory and you do not need to attend EVERY activity. However, when we help others, we often help ourselves appreciate our blessings. Also, when we put God first, He makes time for everything else we need. I hope to see you often this year. Any questions about the Youth Group, Please contact Katie Witts youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00am living & deceased members of the parish 4:30 pm deceased members of Paull family

r/b Gary & Denise Mietz

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:30 am Pat Reagan

r/b Mary Lou & Harry Horlacher

10:00 am Ray Desrochers r/b Jack Boesch

Tom LaCasse r/b Ted & Kay Uhlman

Kathleen Centonze r/b Sheila & John Mohan

11:30 am Helen Banitvoglio r/b children

MONDAY—OCTOBER 9

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am Sue Buttacavoli

r/b Dr. & Mrs. Fred Petrone

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am Kathleen Centonze r/b Elizabeth Gaskill

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am Ray Desrochers

r/b Wednesday Morning SCC

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family 9:00 am Peggy O'Malley r/b Martin

Julia Lepre r/b Marian Kapischke

John W. Esposito r/b Ron & Angela Panna

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family

9:00 am Eugene A. Finn, Jr.

r/b Robert & Roseann Luther

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish

4:30 pm Valentino M. Bielli r/b family

SUNDAY—OCTOBER 15

8:30 am Tom LaCasse

r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society

10:00 am Ray Desrochers r/b Jack Boesch

Brian Bones r/b Carol Koelsch

Joan A. Gray

r/b Joanne Wachman & family

11:30 am Fran Boesch r/b husband, Jack

Papal Intentions for the Month of October: That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK...Pat Beaney, 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, Thomas Houston, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, Stephen Kaye, John B. Kennedy, Peggy Kiefner, Maureen Kochanek, Stan Kochanek, Don Kreal, Mary Ellen Lepre, Marie Manalo, Vince Marchesani, Wayne Mauri, Sr., Jerry McMenamin, Youngmork Park, Hilda K Pellerito, Fred Petrone, Tina Petrone, Pauline Rosberg, Joseph Ryan, John S., 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, Lt. Col. James P. Tohin

St. Thomas More Parish celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2018! We are kicking off this year-long celebration with the Novena of St. Thomas More beginning November 8, 2017.



More details will be available as the date draws nearer. We invite and encourage all to take part in the activities in this Anniversary Year!



Prayer Shawl Meeting Thursday, October 12, 9:30 am Classroom #1 All those interested in this ministry are invited to attend.

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 All women of the parish are invited to brunch in the Parish Hall after the 10:00 AM Mass.



Sponsored by the Women's Club

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 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Oct. 15, 2017 - Matt. 22:1-14 Today's gospel is a parable. "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants twice to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come." A third invitation was sent to whomever they found. The servants brought in everyone they could find - the good and the bad. "But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment? But he was reduced to silence. Afterwards he was cast into the darkness.

Commentary:

In Scripture, meals are always occasions of sharing life, memories and intimacy. This meal is different, though. This meal, rather banquet, is by invitation of the king! For now, it is the Eucharist. Later, it's "eternal life." Refusing to come at the king's behest seems incongruous, yet, as in the parable, some say - no. No matter who we are or how we are, we are invited, the good and the bad. ALL are invited, but then...one comes but without a wedding garment! Who would ever turn a friend away for not wearing the proper garment? The king who is focused on Gospel attire would have to turn his friend away. Unless we clothe ourselves, or at least try to be loving, peaceable, humble, patient, good and kind, I simply won't fit in, I won't belong - by my own choice! We are invited to share in the heavenly banquet both now and for all eternity. How do I respond?

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?



Silence hides the truth. Speaking up exposes falsehood. What have you done to speak up against the horrors of abortion and Planned Parenthood? If your answer is nothing, then you need to educate yourself and speak out to stop these atrocities.

Al MacElrath- Pro-Life Coordinator 779-7130

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be at the doors of the church next weekend accepting your donations of non-perishable foodstuffs and any monetary contributions you wish to make. Thank you for assisting them in their mission to feed the hungry.

Women's Club registration Form—Please return by October 15, 2017						
NAME	SPOUSE'S NAME					
ADDRESS	CITY					
ZIP CODE PHONE #	EMAIL_					
NEW MEMBERYESNO	I WILL ATTEND THE BRUNCHYESNO					
Dues included (\$10.00)cashcheck payable to St. Thomas More Women's Club						
Please drop off to the Church Office or mail to: Pat Maggart 522 Kings Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003						

Mark L. Waltzer, D.M.D., F.A.G.D. Alfred E. Berry, D.M.D.

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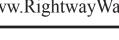


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