

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 12, 2019

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sunday, during 10 a.m. Mass

Grades one thru four: Tuesday, 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 6:30– 8:00 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



World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2019

O, Mary, who raised your Divine Son with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, intercede for all young people, especially those clouded by doubt about their vocations. May the light of grace pierce their hearts so they may answer your Son's call, especially those whom He is inviting to the priesthood and consecrated life. *Amen*

Our collection for May 5, 2019, was \$7,590.00 from 156 donations. Thank you for your continuing 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



Come join your fellow parishioners every Friday from 9:30am—12noon for Eucharistic Adoration. All are encouraged to attend.

Stewardship Corner: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Joyful Stewardship

"The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit."
Acts 13:52

The disciples heard our Lord's call and were able to spread the Gospel message with strength and vitality. We, too, can experience the same joy if we make room for the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts. When we use our gifts by living in Stewardship, He fills us with supernatural joy. A joy that others notice and are attracted to.



The Catholic Faith in Slow Motion

Fr. Phillip Johnson

Reflection on Living, Praying, and Understanding the Faith

Not a Problem, Not a Riddle, But a Mystery

What's the difference between a problem and a mystery? A famous Catholic philosopher once explained it this way. A problem need solving. A riddle needs solving. A *mystery*, at least in a Christian sense, is never entirely solved. A mystery is entered into, explored, meditated upon, lived. We can indeed understand something of the mystery. We can understand it more and more as we *live within mystery*. But we never fully *comprehend* it. The mystery keeps showing us ever-new depths. We never “get to the bottom of it”. As we “know” the mystery, we know that there is more to know.

After being tortured and executed on the cross, then buried in a tomb, Jesus of Nazareth was seen to be alive by many who had known and loved him in his earthly life and ministry. They conversed with him, shared meals with him, were taught by him, then commissioned by him. These encounters took place over a period of forty days. Then, at what turned out to be the final encounter, his closest followers saw him “ascend”, exit, disappear into the heavens.

The mystery of Easter is at the foundations of the Christian Faith. There are many aspects or “doors of entry” through which we contemplate the mystery. I can but point to a few here. Through the Easter season (50 days!), I hope we can deepen our faith in the mysteries of Easter.

The “Who” of the Resurrection: It would not necessarily be good news if just *somebody* was raised from dead. We would shake with horror, not with wonder, if Hitler were raised from the dead. The good news is that the *Crucified One* is raised—the one who healed and called us to love and taught us to pray “our Father”. If it is Jesus who is raised up, then *sacrificial love has been raised up as the key to all existence*.

Not just Resuscitation but Resurrection: The Scriptures give us several resurrection stories. Lazarus was brought back to life, as was the little daughter of the high official (Luke 8:40-42, 49-56). But they were raised to resume their old life; they would once again face death. But Jesus did not simply resume his life. He was raised above the power of death itself. “Death has no more dominion over him,” as St. Paul says. That is, he was raised up into Life Eternal, as the Crucified victor over death itself. Only so can he grant us such Life.

Reunion: As the risen Christ, Jesus appeared not to all, but to those who had come to know him and love him, to Peter and John and all the apostles, to Mary and “five hundred at one time” (1 Cor. 15:1 ff). Why did he not simply appear to all, everywhere in the world, *compelling belief*? Because knowledge of his Lordship can be real only through Love, not through sheer power. Until he comes again, the Easter mystery must be proclaimed and believed in this humble human way – from faith to faith, from love to love.

The Resurrection of the Body: We profess this aspect of the mystery in the Apostles' Creed. St. Luke tells us that when Jesus suddenly appeared to them the disciples thought they had seen a ghost. But Jesus showed them his hands and feet, his wounded side. And Jesus *ate* with them (Lk. 21, John 26)! The risen Jesus is no ghost, no disembodied spirit, but a fully human life—body, soul, and spirit. For he came to redeem us, body, soul, and spirit. And so heaven will be no mere fellowship of spirits, but the “redemption of our bodies” (Rom. 8). Certainly the resurrected body of Jesus was newly empowered by the Spirit---a “spiritual body”, St. Paul calls it (1 Cor. 15). But in the resurrection, Jesus has prepared a place for the whole of the human person. Heaven will be no strange place. For in heaven, we will explore the mystery of love forever.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 12, 2019

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for MAY 18/19

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Father King	Christy/Choir Julie	P. & N. Kirincic K. Wislocky	K. Wislocky	S. & D. Russo
8:30 AM	Father King	Andy	K. Witts Sr. Clare	D. Miller	R. Witts E. Shim
10:00 AM	Father Johnson	Becca Julie	M. Huynh D. Staton K. Glover	K. McFadden	W. Quay I. Vascisin L. Hutchinson
11:30 AM	Father Johnson	Becca Julie	M. Garber A. Thompson J. DeMichele	R. Ciccotta	T. Dautle R. & R. Sharma

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



For Our Children

Register Now

Reregistration packets for the school year 2019-2020 were sent home. All returning students must reregister. *Why not complete the form and return it NOW while you are thinking of it?*

Prompt reregistration allows us to schedule the proper number of teachers and to ensure we have enough books and supplies for the number of students we will have. **Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.** Registration forms will be available on the St. Thomas More website: stthomasmorenj.org

Summer in the City Program: Sunday August 11th—Saturday, August 12th, 2019 (the Shore/ Atlantic County
 Cost is \$160 which includes room, board, tuition and transportation to and from work sites. Scholarships are available. Registration is on a first-come-first-served basis. Registration for Atlantic County is **due by July 25, 2019.** For registration or more information contact Youth Ministries 856-583-2908; gregory.coogan@camdendiocese.org



Parish Survey Development

Our Parish Convocation Committee will be developing a Parish Survey as one of our initiatives from the recent Diocesan Convocation. The survey will address **how well the parish is doing and where we might improve in areas such as parish life, liturgies, outreach, ministries, etc.** We'd like help from anyone with any experience in survey development and evaluation or from other parish members interested in helping. **If you have any insight and experience with surveys or just wish to participate, please reach out to us.** **Volunteering to help does not obligate you to a long-term commitment; even a single conversation will be helpful!** This is an opportunity to be of service to help us better understand our parishioners' needs and identify how we can best meet those needs. **Please contact Sr. Ann for more details(424-3213)**



Women's Club End of Year Social And Baby Diapers Shower
 6 :00 pm Wednesday, May 22 in the Parish Hall.

Come enjoy friendship, appetizers and dessert!

The Women's Club participates in outreach service to others. **This year we are planning a "Baby Diaper Shower" to benefit Catholic Charities Family and Community Service Centers.** These Centers help residents of each of the 6 southern New Jersey counties served by the Diocese of Camden. **Baby diapers in sizes 1 to 6 are desperately needed.**

Bring your Diaper Shower gift to the End of the Year Social on May 22nd. If you can't come to the social please drop off items at the office. RSVP to Lorraine Kennedy (856-489-0031) no later than May 20th so we can plan on having enough food.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 12, 2019



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MAY 11

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish
 4:30 pm Josephine Mormile r/b Vince & Emelia

SUNDAY, MAY 12

8:30 am Helen Bantivoglio r/b children
 10:00 am Ted Uhlman r/b Gary Gadren
 11:30 am Gayle Beaney Clower r/b Shirley Kane

MONDAY, MAY 13

6:45 am Margherita Paulo
 9:00 am intentions of Michael Kapischke
 r/b Marian Kapischke

TUESDAY, MAY 14

6:45 am Howard Spencer
 9:00 am intentions of Jim & Pat Beaney

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

6:45 am vocations to the priesthood and religious life
 9:00 am Brigitta McCarthy r/b Marguerite Dwyer

THURSDAY, MAY 16

6:45 am end of abortion and euthanasia
 9:00 am Theresa Hughes

FRIDAY, MAY 17

6:45 am intentions of Religious Education students,
 staff and families
 9:00 am Jim Bones r/b Teri

SATURDAY, MAY 18

9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish
 4:30 pm Janet Lisitski r/b Joe & Chris Torello

SUNDAY, MAY 19

8:30 am Andrew Rossi r/b Rossi family
 10:00 am Ted Uhlman
 r/b Claire & Angelo Di Giacomo
 Joseph Ryan, Jr. r/b Ryan family
 Charles J. McAndrew
 r/b Mena & Arnold Kramer
 11:30 am Bernadette Johns

Papal Intentions for the Month of May: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for the continent.



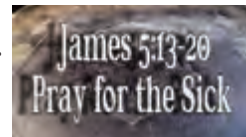
**Dining for Dollars
with the Knights!
Tuesday,**

**May 28th, 2019
Lamberti's
Tutti Toscani
1491 Brace Road
Cherry Hill**



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN
YOUR PRAYERS: *THE SICK...***

Kristina Acevedo, Jim Beaney, Jr.,
 Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano, Elva
 Clark, Joseph Console, Marie
 Corcoran, GERALYN Coticone, John Coticone, Mary
 Cowan, Margaret Crawford, Catherine Diana, Angelo
 DiGiacomo, Chuck Goodwin, Thomas Handler, Helen
 Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Ron
 Kramer, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, John Minot, Arleen
 Pajic, Tom Pajic, Youngmork Park, Fred Petrone, Tina
 Petrone, Joseph Ryan, Frank Sabatino, Carlos Santiago,
 Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Frank Sines, Claire
 Spence, Dick Spence, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Jim
 Tobin, Linda Van Name, Ann Vigrass, Kathryn Wolfe



**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE
ARMED SERVICES...**

2nd Lieutenant Patrick J. Bones,
 USMC, Captain Anthony R. Cosentino,
 SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lily
 Hutchinson, USN, Petty Officer 3rd
 class; Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, 1st Lt.
 Christopher M. Mawn, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt.
 Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin



**St. Thomas More
Second Annual
Christmas in July
5K Run/1 Mile Walk
7:00 pm July 25, 2019**

Now is the time to start training!!



**Liturgical Ministers Meeting
7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 21, 2019
in the Church**

This meeting includes all **Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Music Ministers, and Sacristans.** In a framework of prayer we will discuss the primary role of all Liturgical Ministers. The particular role of each ministry will also be reviewed. **As Liturgical Ministers, we have the opportunity to evangelize as we serve in ministries witnessed by many.** What evangelization means for us will be discussed. Thank you for all you do in ministry for the parishioners of St. Thomas More Parish.

Mark your calendar for this Meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you at this time.

Fr. Johnson, Fr. King, Sr. Ann

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 12, 2019

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 Easter, May 19, 2019 – John 13: 31-33a, 34-35

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Commentary:

There are many examples in the Bible of farewell speeches. They always include leaving a farewell gift. Jesus addressed his disciples as "my children," like a father would on his deathbed. Jesus' gift is the commandment to "love one another." This is the key to eternal happiness. "Love your neighbor as yourself" had been around for a long time. There was something new in Jesus' command. **They were to love each other as Jesus loves.** It is to be a totally selfless love. Jesus' death on the cross is the highest expression of his love. It is this love which identifies the disciples with Jesus. **What we believe, how we behave and worship must be motivated by his command to "love one another" as he loves us.** This is the necessary mark of a truly Christian community.

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?

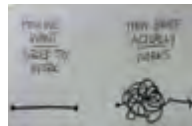


Pro-Life Corner: A mother was quoted as saying that hearing her unborn baby's heartbeat "was the most beautiful music I ever heard in my life." Pray that all expectant mothers will choose life.

St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry

"Journeying Through Grief"

Guided by Kenneth C. Haugh's



series: A Time to Grieve; Experiencing Grief; Finding Hope and Healing; and Rebuilding and Remembering.

Come listen, share, and heal— May 18th 2:30—3:30pm. Contact: Ann Marie Lento: 856-344-7454.

Lost our lease!



Cherry Hill Food Pantry has lost its lease and is looking for a new space to continue its mission to feed the hungry.

If you know of any

space available in the Cherry Hill area that is between 6,000 and 8,000 square feet, please contact Janet Giordano at cherryhillnjfoodpantry@gmail.com or call 856-912-2353.

Your support of the 2019 *House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal* ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching and redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ throughout Southern New Jersey.

Your gift matters. "You Did It for Me"

Support the 2019 **House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal** www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

St. Thomas More 2019 House of Charity– Bishop's Annual Appeal is \$119, 648.00. As of this time we have received \$46, 500.00(38.9% of our goal) in donations and pledges. We are grateful for any and all donations to this Appeal. Pledge Cards are available at the end of each pew, in the Gathering Space and in the Parish Office. Please fill out and return your pledge card if you have not already done so.

Thanks!



Courtyard Rosary (in Chapel if raining)

7:00 pm Thursday, May 15, 2019

Sponsored by

St. Thomas More Women's Club

All are encouraged to attend.

Light refreshments will be served after the recitation of the Rosary.

Looking for a **fulltime live in caregiver for an older gentleman in Haddonfield who has dementia** yet is stable medically and physically. Contact rfnaticchia@gmail.com or cell: 609-922-2670.



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