

# 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](mailto: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  
 3:00-4:00 pm or any time by  
 appointment

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

**Find us on Facebook:  
 St. Thomas More Parish CH**

Email address for bulletin items:

[stmsecretary1439@gmail.com](mailto:stmsecretary1439@gmail.com).

**Please submit all items for the  
 bulletin by 2:00 pm Monday.**

## DIRECTORY

### *Pastoral Leadership*

Parish Trustees Greta Tyrrell 424-3212

### *Christian Life/Education*

Bereavement Staff 424-3212

Consolation Ministry Ann Marie Lento 344-7454

Hospital Visitors Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212

Intercessory Prayer Ann Vigrass 428-7217

Knights of Columbus David Galloway 609-980 6006

Marriage Formation Bob/Liz Scarpa 795-1160

Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sr. Clare Sabini 424-3212

Prayer Shawls Sheila Mohan

Ann Vigrass 428-7217

Respect Life

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

St. Vincent de Paul Paul Rossi 424-3212

Stewardship Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212

Youth Ministry Cristina Chillem 424-3212

[youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org](mailto:youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org)

### *Worship*

Altar Servers Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212

Pat Maggart

Ann Vigrass 428-7217

Joyce DeMichele 424-4008

Sr. Ann Byrnes 424-3212

Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes

Ann Vigrass 428-7217

Greta Tyrrell 428-2412

Dom Sacca

Pat Maggart

Dave Bongiovanni

Joe Centonze

Chico Febus

Joyce DeMichele 424-4008

Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323

Lin Lyon 795-4396

Committee 424-3212

Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323

Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031

### *Ushers*

### *Social Development*

### *Bridge Groups*

Funsters (over 50 club)

Parish Festival

Women's Club

### *Administration*

House of Charity

Parish Finance Council

Parish Pastoral Council

Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212

Robert Crawford 424-3212

Marie Enny 751-8893

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 1, 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 - 5:45PM

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

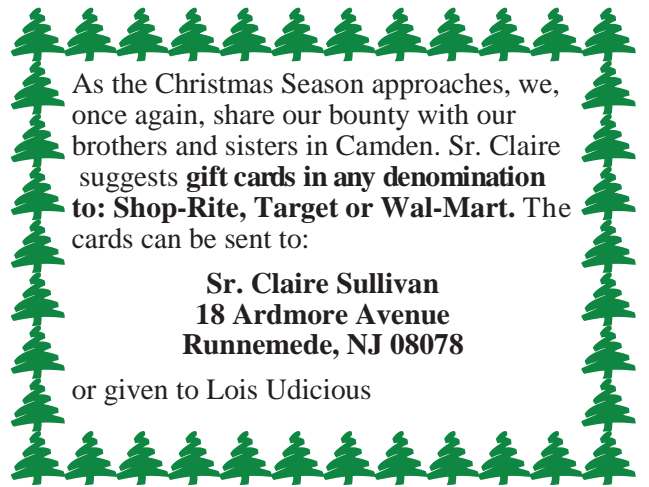
Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



### Second Collection next weekend: Retired Fund for Religious

For 30,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who

benefit from the **Retirement Fund for Religious**—service is a way of life. Most ministered in Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, and social service agencies, usually for little or no pay. Today, hundreds of religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers vital support for the necessities. **Please be generous.**



As the Christmas Season approaches, we, once again, share our bounty with our brothers and sisters in Camden. Sr. Claire suggests **gift cards in any denomination to: Shop-Rite, Target or Wal-Mart.** The cards can be sent to:

**Sr. Claire Sullivan  
18 Ardmore Avenue  
Runnemede, NJ 08078**

or given to Lois Udicious

**“... 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 Corner: 1st Sunday of Advent

**“ Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” Matthew 24:42**



People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God.

The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize that all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God's active presence in your life.

# LESSONS *and Carols*

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and Song that dates to the late, 19<sup>th</sup> century. Come, enjoy and be inspired by Area Choirs singing musical pieces proclaiming Christ's coming!

Sunday December 8, 2019  
3:00 PM St. Thomas More Church  
1439 Springdale Rd.  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
08003

## Area Choirs Participating

*Camden Catholic HS Choir*

*Merion Mercy Academy Choir*

*Gwynedd Mercy University Choir*

*Diocese of Camden  
Gospel Choir*

*Saint Thomas More Parish Choir*

## Merion Mercy Academy Choir





## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 1, 2019

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE for Dec. 7/8

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Father	Music Ministry	R. Crawford T. Petrone I. Rellosa	F. Eggles	S. & D. Russo K. Johnson
8:30 AM	Father	Music Ministry	B. Massey K. Witts	M. Maggart	C. Oatway R. Witts
10:00 AM	Father	Music Ministry	J. Galati T. Librojo D. Staton	L. Galati	T. Kenny L. Hutchinson A. Librojo
11:30 AM	Father	Music Ministry	H. Protzman M. Garber A. Thompson	V. Marchesani	I. Vascisin K. Mackey A. Kuzinski

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



**SESSIONS COMING UP:** December 3, 10, and 17 – Christmas Program, at 7:00 pm in the Church.

**Intergenerational activity.** Light refreshments will be offered afterward in the parish hall. Classes are substituted by the program and all children grades 1-8 are expected to be there. Also, the immediate and extended families are invited and all parishioners as well. It is a moment of reflection and prayer, while experiencing the true meaning of Christmas. It will also be much fun because wherever children are there is joy and fun to be had.

From the letter to the Romans: “You know the time, it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, “

The letter to the Romans we read today is a “wake up call”. In

fact, every morning, as we awake and get up from bed, is a “wake up call.” To What? To a new start, a new beginning. Our lives are constantly changing. We are not the same for even two minutes. God is a Dynamic Being and life with God is ever evolving. We can’t comprehend it and only through FAITH can we certainly perceive it. Advent is a call to “look into our heart and see what there is I need help to change. We may teach our children that *Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birthday, but HE does not need gifts or toys. He only wants our heart, he wants “US”*

*Explaining what this means can truly make a difference for them and for us.*



*Are you or a loved one considering a Church annulment? Do you have a prior marriage that needs to be annulled? Do you want to be able to receive Holy Communion with your child or grandchild, but live in an irregular marriage? If you were married outside the Catholic Church, would you want your marriage to become a sacrament?*

If the answer is “Yes” to any of these questions, please consider attending a workshop that will focus on helping you begin the annulment process and address any questions or concerns you may have about the annulment process.

The Tribunal staff will be presenting a workshop:

**Monday, December 2, 2019**

**7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

**St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Center  
27 Kresson – Gibbsboro Road Gibbsboro,  
NJ 08026**

Staff is available to assist anyone in both English and Spanish, and will bring all the necessary forms to assist you.



**Liturgy of the Word for Children**

This program is offered at the **10:00 am Mass. All children ages 4 through first grade** are welcome.

**No registration is necessary.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 1, 2019



Mass Intentions for the Week

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

- 9:00am Living & Deceased members of the Parish  
Kyle Haughwout r/b family
- 4:30 pm George Gehring r/b Ann Gehring

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1**

- 8:30 am Michael Vigrass r/b family
- 10:00 am John Mohan r/b Henry & Kathy Glover  
Anthony "Buzzy" & Loretta Cirillo  
r/b Joan Lukens  
Daniel Keating r/b Kay Uhlman
- 11:30 am Louise Ruppert r/b Benedict's Place SCC

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2**

- 6:45 am vocations to the priesthood  
and religious life
- 9:00 am Julia Anderson r/b Fred & Tina Petrone

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3**

- 6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family
- 9:00 am Daniel Keating r/b Jeannine McMenamin

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4**

- 6:45 am for an end to abortion and euthanasia
- 9:00 am Julia Anderson r/b Jeannine McMenamin

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**

- 6:45 am Msgr. David Budney & family
- 9:00 am Cindy Zielinski  
r/b Thursday Evening SCC

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

- 6:45 am For STM parishioners
- 9:00 am Daniel Keating  
r/b Thursday Evening SCC

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**


- 9:00 am living & deceased members of the parish  
Kathy Haughwout r/b family
- 4:30 pm Genevieve & Fred Pfeiffer  
& John & Agnes Walsh  
r/b Walsh family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

- 8:30 am Happy Birthday, Annamarie Ibay  
r/b Mom & Dad
- 10:00 am Francis Lo Castro r/b Wachman family  
Jean Cristiano  
r/b Henry & Kathy Glover  
Angelo Giarletta r/b Mary Ann & Pat

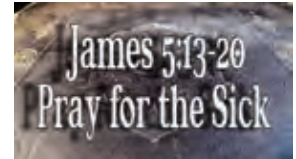
**Papal Intentions for the Month of DECEMBER:**  
That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** is celebrated each Friday from 9:30 am—12noon. All are invited to come "spend some time with your Lord."



**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, Dick Haughwout, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Ron Kramer, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, John Minot, Arleen Pajic, Tom Pajic, 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, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin

**ADVENT SCHEDULE**  
**Advent Lessons and Carols**  
Sunday, December 8 3:00 PM  
St. Thomas More Church  
**Confessions throughout Advent**  
Saturdays 3:30-4:00 PM

**Regional Penitential Service**  
**Monday, December 9 7:00 PM**  
**Christ Our Light Parish**  
Large number of Confessors present

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**  
Christmas Eve  
4:00 PM and 6:00 PM  
Christmas Day  
10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

**NEW YEAR'S MASSES**  
Mary Mother of God  
December 31 4:30 PM  
January 1 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 1, 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 Second Sunday of Advent, December 8, 2019 Matthew 3: 1-12**


John the Baptist appeared preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand!” It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: “A voice of one crying out in the desert, prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.”

**Commentary:**

John the Baptist is truly an Advent man! John, anticipating the judgment Christ’s coming would bring, prepared the “way of the Lord ‘ by calling the people to repentance. We become an Advent people when we heed John’s message by converting our way of living and bearing good fruit.

**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?



**Pro-Life Corner:** The next time you read the genealogy of Jesus, think about this. If just one person in that lineage would have had an abortion, the greatest event in all history would not have taken place, the birth of Jesus, the Salvation of the world. The taking of ONE single life wipes out the countless offspring who would have followed in all generations to come. Every abortion interferes with God’s plans for us and our future generations. Pray and work to end abortion and euthanasia.

**The Joy of Christmas Reunion Concert  
7:30 pm Friday, December 13th  
Verizon Hall, Kimmel Center**



The Jubilate Deo Chorale & Orchestra, Eastern University ensembles, Church of the Savior Festival Choir, and Choirs of the Diocese of Camden, once again come together to fill Verizon Hall with the glorious sounds of Christmas. People that have attended past performances walk away filled with the Christmas Spirit, and say...."Now I'm ready for Christmas." This ensemble has performed at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Kimmel Center, and to audiences exceeding 7000 people. Tickets and more information available at the Kimmel Center Box Office or online: [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org).



**St. Thomas More  
Christmas Pageant  
7:00 pm December 17th**

All parishioners are invited to attend the **Christmas Pageant, which will be held in the Church.** The children of the parish will be presenting the story of Christmas, singing Christmas music and encouraging the congregation to sing several familiar carols. There will be light refreshments served afterwards.







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*Supporting families and their loved ones who have Alzheimers or other dementias one moment at a time.*

**catholicmatch**  
 New Jersey



[CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ](http://CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ)

**What's My Name?**

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

**#WHATSMYNAME**

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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