

# 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 Vigil: 7:30 pm



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

Reverend Monsignor Thomas J. Morgan, Pastor  
Reverend George Donkor Tang, In Residence  
Reverend Daniel Joyce, S.J., Weekend Assistant  
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation  
Deacon John Harrington  
Pat Maggart, Parish Catechetical Leader  
Roger Pisani, Pastoral Associate for Music & Liturgy  
Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Norma Matos, Parish Secretary

## DIRECTORY

### Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees	Gary Gadren	424-3212
	Pat Lachnicht	424-3212

### Christian Life/Education

Bereavement	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Friday Adoration	Marian/Chuck Kapischke	424-2053
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Knights of Columbus	Dick Haughwout	429-8598
Marriage Formation	Bob/Liz Scarpa	795-1160

Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Pat Maggart	429-6948
Pastoral Counselor	Claire Spence	428-8325
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath	779-7130

Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212

Rosary Ministry	Marian/Chuck Kapischke	424-2053
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	424-4759
Spiritual Direction	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073
	Denise Radziwill	424-0494

St. Vincent de Paul	Frank Nicoletti	424-3212
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### Worship

Altar Servers	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Church Environment	Ann Vigrass	428-7217

Ch. Art Environment	Antonina Nicdao	751-6320
Eucharistic Ministers	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Lectors	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
Linen Committee	Pat Lachnicht	424-5636
Sacristans	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Tom Petrilli	751-1367
	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412

Ushers	Frank Krenslak	309-1999
Music Ministry	Roger Pisani, Director	609-702-7858
	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
	Len Kolojejchick	346-4078
	June Garafano, Youth Singers	229-7461

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

Career Ministry	Al Shaffer	609-417-6770
	June Garafano	229-7461

Funsters (over 50 club)	Bob Lento	424-4759
Parish Festival	Committee	424-3212
Women's Club	Eileen Withers	751-6838

### Administration

**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 office if you or a family member will be admitted to the hospital. Anointing of the sick is available for those who are confined to home for a period of time. For emergencies, please call the parish office any time.

**BAPTISM**

Arrangements for Baptism can be made in advance by calling the parish office. Parents and godparents are required to attend a class in preparation for this Sacrament.

**MARRIAGE**

Couples planning to marry must attend a marriage preparation program called Living in Love. One-year notification of the marriage date is recommended.

**RCIA**

*The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* is a process of instruction for full initiation into the Catholic Church. It is open to those never Baptized; those baptized in another faith; and Catholics who have not completed their Sacraments. Contact Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate, 424-3212 ext. 104 or Deacon John Harrington, Moderator, at 424-3212 ext. 103.

RCIA Team: John Mohan and Irene Rellosa

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sunday, during 10 a.m. Mass  
Grades one thru four: Tuesday, 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.  
Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 7 - 8:30 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.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE - 2011**

**CONFESSIONS**

*Saturday, December 17, 2011*  
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

*Saturday, December 24, 2011 (Christmas Eve)*  
4:00 and 6:00 p.m.  
*Sunday, December 25, 2011 (Christmas Day)*  
12:00 - Midnight  
10:00 and 11:30 a.m.

**NEW YEAR'S MASSES**

Mary, Mother of God  
*Saturday, December 31, 2011 (Vigil)* 4:30 p.m.  
*Sunday, January 1, 2012*  
8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 a.m.



**EXTRA USHERS** are needed to help during Christmas Masses. The balcony will be used during this season, Masses will be crowded and visitors will need direction.

If you can volunteer to help during the Christmas Masses please call Frank Krenslak at 309-1999. Indicate at which Mass you can assist – Christmas Eve: 4 or 6 p.m. or 12 Midnight.



Residents of St. Mary's Village enjoy a luncheon following the "First Friday Communion Service." Luncheon was prepared by Sheila Moore, Pat Beaney, Eileen Kleinz, Joan Radula and Elaine Beckman. Parish Extraordinary Ministers, John Mohan and Kathy Glover, assisted Sister Ann at the Communion Service.

Last week's collection  
December 4, 2011  
\$11,333.50  
274 Envelopes

*May the Lord bless you for your generosity to your parish.*

**COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
**Monday, December 12, 2011 - 7:30 PM**  
**At Saint Thomas More Parish**

Through Baptism we become the adopted sons and daughters of God. Baptism connects our lives with Christ forever. We live in Him and He lives in us. As a family we try to deepen our relationship with Christ every day.

We are all very aware that we can wander away from the right path of life. We wander away from family life and life in the world as it is supposed to be. We can wander away from God. We envy the talents of others. We never discover our own. We get involved with evil.

We have family conflicts and family wars. We have national and international wars. War destroys everything. People are killed. Millions are starving and millions die. Creation is ripped apart. We sin and we need Jesus to save us. We need to go to Confession. We need to soak up the mercy and goodness of God.

Sin is real. Sin is ugly. Sin is toxic. Sin is a virus in healthy living. Sin is harmful. Sin is hurtful. Sin is pride. Sin is greed. Sin is envy. Sin is lust. Sin is anger. Sin is resentment. Sin is war. Sin is hatred. Sin is racism. Sin is violence of all kinds. Sin is personal. Sin is communal. Sin brings misery. Sin brings pain. Sin brings unhappiness. Sin brings loss.

We are all wounded emotionally and spiritually by sin of one kind or another. We are weakened emotionally and spiritually. And we believe that the great medicine for us Catholics is the sacrament of RECONCILIATION. The experience of this sacrament communally can heal our spiritual illnesses and uplift our emotional and spiritual conditions.

Jesus spends much time during his public ministry on forgiving sinners. Jesus wants to forgive us. Jesus wants to set us free. Jesus wants a better life for us. Jesus has no interest in condemning us. Giving forgiveness is very much at the heart of Jesus ministry.

To really experience Jesus forgiveness and God's unconditional love is very therapeutic. To taste God's absolute goodness and mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation can be a wonderful source of comfort and peace for all of us.

It is God's absolute and constant love and mercy that pardons our sins. It is God's forever and infinite love that pardons our sins and heals our souls. God's grace is an unearned gift that is given in abundance in the sacrament of reconciliation.

God's grace is more powerful than sin. God's love is more powerful than sin. God's goodness is infinitely stronger than our sins. All we have to do is acknowledge, admit and ask for forgiveness. In this way we are strengthened to grow in goodness and are ruled by grace.

Our sin never affects us alone. Your whole family, our whole faith community is damaged and weakened by our personal sins. We acknowledge this when we hold our communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for all parishioners of our area parishes on this coming **MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 12th at 7:30 PM.**

Please come Monday evening at 7:30 PM. You too can benefit from experiencing the goodness and mercy of God. You are teaching and you are modeling well when you join with others and go to CONFESSION and celebrate the sacrament of God's infinite mercy.

Give yourself the gift of experiencing the mercy and forgiveness of God in the context of the sacrament of reconciliation. There will be about ten priests available on Monday evening. So there will not be a long wait. You will be home in a reasonable time.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday evening at Saint Thomas More Church. May all of you and your loved ones have a blessed and holy Christmas Season.

Blessings,  
Monsignor Morgan

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Ministry Schedule for December 17 and 18, 2011

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	<b>Father Maher</b>	<b>C Malatino R Pisanl</b>	<b>J Andraka, R Crawford J DeMichele, I Rellosa</b>	<b>T Andraka</b>	<b>I Witting K Johnson</b>
8:30 a.m.	<b>Father Joyce</b>	<b>J Garafano R Kaplschke L Kolojchick</b>	<b>M Gorln, J/S Mohan D Staton</b>	<b>J Vecchlola</b>	<b>D DeMarco E Barbera</b>
10:00 a.m.	<b>Father Joyce</b>	<b>M Kramer L Kolojchick</b>	<b>J Kenney, J Mazzagatti D/ML Thomas</b>	<b>K McFadden</b>	<b>C/J McFadden</b>
11:30 a.m.	<b>Father Maher</b>	<b>D Kreal R Pisanl</b>	<b>B/AM Lento, S Moore D Spence</b>	<b>C Spence</b>	<b>M Ronan G/M Gray</b>

### *Women's Club News*

- **Entertainment Book '2012':** Now available, still only \$30. Call Clare at 428-9251.

*Eileen Withers, President - 751-6838*

### YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sr. – High School students    Jr. – 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades

Thank you to everyone who participated in last Sunday evening's Cherry Hill Regional Youth Group Mass, held here at St. Thomas More. Great Mass, great music and fun activities with plenty of food after the Mass.

Upcoming Event(s):

- **Join us Friday evening (12/16/11)** as Holy Eucharist invited our Youth Group to a Christmas Party (cookie exchange) in their parish hall. Please RSVP to Mr. Thompson, 424-1120, if you will be attending.

*Stan Thompson, YG Coordinator - 424-1120*

### St. Thomas More MOVIE NIGHT

**Saturday, December 31**

**6:30 PM – Food & Fellowship**

Reservation requested to order food; meatballs, sausage & peppers & pulled pork sandwiches will be provided. Donations will be accepted, kindly bring a Side Dish or Dessert to share.

*Sign up this weekend after Mass.*

**7:15 PM – MOVIE**

*The Ultimate Gift*

**Life is how you live it...not how you spend it.**

Committee: Marianne Gorin, Joe Centonze, Bob Lento, Gary Scarpa, Greta Tyrrell & Cindy Zielinski

Contact Marianne with any questions at 346-1811 or email Joe Centonze at joecent4@gmail.com.

### PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The third class for Confirmation II candidates will be held next Sunday, December 18, at 11 a.m. in the St. Thomas More Parish Hall. All eighth grade students are expected to attend the 10 a.m. Mass prior to class.

The Confirmation Class Candidates and their families are lighting the Advent Wreath during our weekend Liturgies.

During the Advent Season, the children in our Parish Religious Education Program will be collecting all kinds of children's socks and mittens – any kind, any size, any color – to be placed on our sharing tree. Each child is asked to donate one package of new socks or mittens – any kind, any size, any color – to be placed on our sharing tree. After Christmas, they will be sent to Sister Claire at The Parish of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Camden to be distributed to the children in their Religious Education Program.

*Pat Maggart, PCL, 424-3212 - ext. 106*

### YOUTH SINGERS Wanted

Grade, Middle and High School children of the parish who are interested in joining the Youth Singers for our 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass, please contact June Garafano at 856-229-7461 and plan to come to rehearsal this Sunday, December 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel. The song selections are the Christmas Carols that you all know and love!



**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK 

**SATURDAY - DECEMBER 10**

9:00 am Jack & Barbara Esposito, 50th Wedding Anniversary r/b Marylee Garber  
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
4:30 pm Bob Miller r/b Amy Osborn

**SUNDAY - DECEMBER 11**

8:30 am Veronica Lachnicht r/b Jerry & Pat Lachnicht  
10:00 am Deceased Members of the Leber Family r/b Mildred  
Richard Smith r/b John & Sheila Mohan  
Marie Venutti r/b Amy Osborn  
Thomas J. Cairns r/b Connie Cairns  
11:30 am Joe Turiano r/b Kay & Family

**MONDAY - DECEMBER 12**

6:45 am Special Intention of Sr. Joanna Sopala  
9:00 am Peggy Evans r/b Robert & Roseann Luther

**TUESDAY - DECEMBER 13**

6:45 am Leo O'Grady r/b Tobin Family  
9:00 am Richard Smith r/b Ann & Bill Vigrass

**WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 14**

6:45 am Carmela Sillitti r/b Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Infant Jesus  
9:00 am Bill Ellinger r/b Lynn

**THURSDAY - DECEMBER 15**

6:45 am Carmela Sillitti r/b Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Infant Jesus  
9:00 am Louise de Vault r/b Eileen Kleinz & Joan Radula  
Marcel Tabone's mom r/b Friend

**FRIDAY - DECEMBER 16**

6:45 am People of the Parish  
9:00 am Lillian Iannuzzi r/b Eileen Kleinz

**SATURDAY - DECEMBER 17**

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
4:30 pm Jim Bones r/b Teri & daughter, Mary

**SUNDAY - DECEMBER 18**

8:30 am Anselmo Dunge, Sr. r/b John & Sheila Mohan  
10:00 am John & Agnes Walsh r/b the Walsh Family  
Nicholas Pino r/b Carol Koelsch  
Thomas J. Cairns r/b Connie Cairns  
11:30 am Deceased Members of St. Thomas More Parish r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society


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

Denise Daniels	Helen Copperthwaite
George Sweeten	Bob & Claire Boylan
Chris Kolodzey	Naomi Willingmyre
Maria Storms	Joseph Console
Mae Rose	Frank Cappetta
Ron Massey	Margaret MacElrath
Olga Mignone	Andrea Buonincontro
Frank Colbert	Michael Kapischke
Mary Cowan	Betty O'Donnell
Yolanda Burke	Marie Mazzagatti
Jean Colbert	Stanley Kochanek
Dorothy Brink	Pauline Rosberg
Catherine Zee	Alfred DiFrank
Pat Barton	Geralyn Coticone
Ethan Killeen	Jerry McMenamin
James Louzon	Joe Pottackal, Sr.
Grayson Caruso	Chuck Kapischke
Chase Lupica	Pasquale DiFronzo
Carlos Santiago	Fr. Joseph Aboagye-Tawiah
Sharon Bushelli	





Owen Smith  
Leona Novak  
Danny Perla  
Anna McMullen  
Don Kreal  
Joanne James  
JoAnn Gadren  
Gloria Daniels  
Mary Flacco  
Ed Rivero  
Marie DiFrank  
Avery Caruso  
Leila Lore  
Betty Brennan

**THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...**

 Lt. Col. Allison Agar, Lance Corporal Sean Bilson, Lt. Cdr. Richard P. Byrnes, Jr., Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mario Centofanti, Sr. Airman Alyssa Cosentino, Staff Sergeant Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, Sr. Airman John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, Major Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, SSgt Arturo Rivero, Jr., Lt. Col. Karl Rohr, USN SR Lindsay Schaffer, Major James P. Tobin, SPC Giselle M. Torres and Cpl. Michael Willingmyre.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks all parishioners who contributed turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving. They were distributed to families that were in need.

 **CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES**   
are included in your December contribution envelope package. Envelopes may be put in the collection basket. As always, thank you for your support.

**Small Christian Community Participants:** Our parish is blessed to have had over 150 parishioners participating in Small Christian Communities this Advent Season. We thank all those who shared their presence, time and Faith in their small groups. We are grateful to our facilitators who provided a safe place for people to gather and pray.

### 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 Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2011 - Luke 1:26-38

...Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

#### Commentary:

In today's first reading, David takes the initiative in providing God a suitable dwelling place among the chosen people. By contrast, in the gospel, it is God who takes the initiative in establishing a divine dwelling place in Mary and among us. What humans would confine to stones and mortar, God plants in human flesh and blood.

#### 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?

#### **St. Vincent de Paul Society:**

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." As we prepare for Christmas let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

**Christmas is a time of love and gift giving... please share your abundance by giving a gift of food or funds to purchase food so that those who do not have food can share in the blessings of Christmas.**

*Frank Nicoletti, President*

#### **ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS**

If you are able to serve at Midnight Mass please call the parish office at 424-3212 to let us know.

#### ***Could God be calling you to the Priesthood?***

Rev. Michael M. Romano, Director of Vocations, is hosting a "Young Adult Priesthood Discernment Group." at Our Lady of Peace Parish Offices, 32 Carroll Ave., Williamstown, NJ. Seniors in high school, college students or men in the professional world (up to 39 yrs. old) are invited. All meetings are on Sundays at 2 p.m. The schedule is as follows: Dec. 18, 2011 and Jan. 22, Feb. 19, March 18, April 29 & June 3, 2012. For more information, please call the Office of Vocations, 583-2858 or email: michael.romano@camdendiocese.org.

 **Options for Women Pregnancy Center in Cherry Hill sincerely thanks the Women's Club and all parishioners who contributed baby items to our drive last weekend. We appreciate your continued support!**

*Sponsored by the Women's Club  
Denise Radziwill, Coordinator*



The flowers at the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue have been placed there, this weekend, in loving memory of Louise Bielli, requested by grandson, Dr. John A. Vivone.

The Career Transitions Partnership can help with your job search. Saint Thomas More Parish is partnering with The Career Transition Partnership ministry that has developed a full curriculum of free training programs to assist job seekers. (Check out their web site [www.ctpnj.org](http://www.ctpnj.org)) On **December 14, 2011**, the CTP will present a training program on "**Job Search and Networking Strategies.**" Training is conducted at Saint Isaac Jogues Church, Parish Hall, Evesboro Road and Elmwood Road, Marlton NJ at 7:00 PM. Pre-Registration is required. For more information contact Al Shaffer at 609-417-6770 or email [al.shaffer@comcast.net](mailto:al.shaffer@comcast.net).