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

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM in

the Chapel **Sat.** 4:30 PM **Sun.** 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel Mon.—Fri. 9:30 AM—12 Noon





Rite of Reconciliation Saturday

3:00—4:00 PM In the Chapel First Fridays after the 9:00 AM Mass

Father Edward Namiotka, Pastor
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
Sister Clare Sabini, FMIJ, Director of Religious Education
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary
Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration



Send all bulletin announcements to: stmsecretary1439@gmail.com by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership Parish Trustees Christian Life/Education	Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover		Worship Altar Servers Church Environment Ch. Art Environment Eucharistic Ministers	Sister Ann Byrnes Committee Committee	424-3212 424-3212
Bereavement	Staff	424-3212	Lectors Lectors	Sr. Ann Byrnes Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes	424-3212
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	344-7454	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Consolution Winistry		comcast.net	Sacristans	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	912-7078		Dom Sacca Dave Bongiovanni	
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212		Joe Centonze	
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Ushers	Chico Febus	
Knights of Columbus	Brian Haughwout 60	9-458-7851	Social Development Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	795-1160	Bridge Groups	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	424-3212	Funsters (over 50 club)	Lin Lyon Î	795-4396
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Parish Festival	Committee	424-3212
Respect Life	Staff		Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella Lorraine Kennedy	795-7323 489-0031
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212		Lorranic Reinicay	407 0031
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053	Administration		
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		House of Charity Parish Finance Council	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212 424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073	Parish Pastoral Council	Robert Crawford Marie Enny	751-8893
St. Vincent de Paul			Turish Tustorur Country		,61 00,6
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212			
Welcoming Team	Shirley Kane	424-8022			

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

Grades One through Eight - Sunday 9:30 AM—10:45 AM

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please submit hardcopy and/or e-mail by 2 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088 Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing

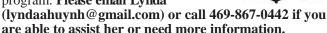


Jesus, you call us to be persistent when it comes to prayer and justice.

Help us to welcome prayerful, faith-filled perseverance without losing heart.

Teach us to be prayer warriors before your holy throne.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is held during the 11:00 AM Mass for children ages 4—6. There is no need to sign up in advance. Lynda Chiaravallotti will coordinate this program. Please email Lynda





The Knights of Columbus "Roses for Life" Drive after all Masses October 22nd—23rd. All proceeds go to local pregnancy centers. Please show your support and purchase a rose.





"If my people, who are called by My Name, **shall humble themselves**, and **pray**, and **seek** My Face, and **turn** from their wicked ways; **then** will I hear from heaven, and will **forgive** their sin, and I will **heal** their land." *2nd Chronicles 7:14*

Tithes and Offerings
The amount budgeted for this week was
\$8,500. The collection for Sunday,
October 9, 2022 was:

\$4639.00 87 donations in church <u>2662.00 34 donations online</u> \$7301.00 121 total donations



Thank you for your continuing support of St. Thomas More Parish

Stewardship Corner: 29th Sunday - Ordinary Time Faithful Stewardship

"...proclaim the word, be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient..." 2 TIMOTHY 4:2

It is not always convenient to be a good Steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a Stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He never said that we would have an easy life. Rather, He called us to be faithful!

From the Pastor's Desk

God, Are You There?

Dear Parishioners.

Does God ever stop thinking about us?

I realize that from a human perspective we can sometimes wonder if God actually hears our prayers or if God knows and cares about us *individually*. Let's stop and think about this for a moment. If God is truly *God* (as Christians understand *God* to be) then we are—*without a doubt*—constantly known and unconditionally loved. God sees and hears everything that we think, say and do. God never takes His focus off of us—not even for a nanosecond. It's impossible. "Even all the hairs of your head are counted." (Mt. 10:30)

Knowing this, does it mean that we no longer have problems and difficulties? Might we not have even more questions, for that matter? Why do bad things happen to good people? Why does it sometimes seem that God does not answer our prayers?

Truly, we do not see as God sees. We are limited, finite beings. We are situated in time. We are <u>not</u> God.

What I have come to realize over many years is that I am called to *trust in God*, to *have faith in God—completely*. I do not have all the answers. I do not know the course of world events. I cannot see into the future. In fact, I am totally dependent on the *Providence of God*. It is the Grace of God that sustains me in all my endeavors.

Is this a cop-out? Am I naive or overly simplistic? I don't think so. In humility, I must realize **all** that we have been given (revelation) through the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. God became *one of us*. In Jesus, God became finite and tangible. Humans could see, touch and hear Him. The Almighty also became subject to suffering and death.

In fact, God the Father revealed essential, life-giving **truth** to us through His Son. He also sent His Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide us. From all this we can begin to see and appreciate how much God truly loves us. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (Jn. 3:16) Jesus' entire life and ultimate death on the cross was no accident but a divine statement of God's self-giving love.

As humans, we are called to be mindful of God. Our limited intellectual capacity unfortunately does not think of God all the time. We forget quickly. We get easily distracted. We struggle with doubt. Nevertheless, remembering to pray and worship God on a regular basis—to have a routine, structured prayer life—benefits *us* tremendously in our quest to be faithful to God as God is ever-faithful to us. Stick with it, even when we do not perceive any tangible results.

I wish that I could give people all the answers that they desire concerning faith and trust in God. I too get frustrated when God seems to *delay* in responding to a prayer request. I do not understand why good people have to suffer.

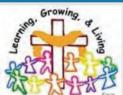
Yet, I know that God sees and hears. I trust that God wants what is best for me, for all of us. "Trust God at all times, my people! Pour out your hearts to God our refuge!" (Ps. 82:9)

I simply must continue to trust—completely.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

Ministry Schedule for October 22/23

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	Sr. Agnes	J. Cepeda	E. & E. Shim
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Erin Julie	B. Massey	D. Miller	T. Kenny E. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta/Elena/Choir Julie	J. Galati	L. Galati	L. & G. Hutchinson S. Andino



"A reading from St. Paul's 2nd Letter to Timothy 3-14; 4-2"

"Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have Generations of Faith known the sacred Scriptures, which

are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage; through all patience and teaching.'

These words are addressed to us these days. Persistence and consistence go together, hand in hand. Living our

FAITH has always required these two virtues and always will. Resistance is a third word needed to resist evil but be open to JESUS's teaching. There is much to do to pass on the FAITH to our children for us adults.



Parents: thankyou for registering your children in our Sunday classes. What we can do here in 75 minutes on

Sunday morning is very little, most of the teaching about our FAITH goes on at home, in the family, extended family and Catholic traditions. Thus, parents, don't leave it up to the Catechists to accomplish your teaching part. They are merely trying to fulfill their own task, hardly enough to sustain our children's FAITH for their lifetime. Yes, we do give some home assignments for our children's independent deepening, and for continuity purposes. YES, children do need to memorize some prayers and truths of our FAITH. YES, in most cases some time can be found during the week for them to review their previous lesson and pray on their own.



SEEKING VENDORS AND CRAFTERS to the annual Christ the King Regional School Outdoor Vendor and Craft Fair!

When: November 12, 2022, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Rain date is November 19.)

Where: Christ the King Regional School, 164 Hopkins Avenue, Haddonfield, NJ

\$45 with provided table or \$35 with your own table Email for more information: ckrsbazaar@gmail.com

Camden Catholic High School Admissions Open House Thursday, October 27th at 6:30PM

RSVP: camdencatholic.org/admission

Fallen Comrade Ceremony for Veterans and First Responders October 18, 2022 6:00—8:00 PM 2140 Voorhees Town Center

"Grieving helps us 'let go of what was' and 'open up to what is' so we can be present to the 'now.'" All are invited to attend.

Second Collection NEXT Weekend: World Mission Sunday

Dear brothers and sisters.

I continue to dream of a completely missionary Church, and a new era of missionary activity among Christian communities. I repeat Moses' great desire for the people of God on their journey: "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets!" (Num 11:29). Indeed, would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth! Mary, Queen of the Missions, pray for us!

Pope Francis, January 2022,



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

4:30 PM Bill Kane r/b family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

8:30AM Janet Burrows

r/b Pat & Carol Luchtman

11:00AM Gavle Beaney Clower r/b family

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:00AM Jim Bones r/b Teri

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:00AM **John Roberts**

r/b Sr. Gloria Louise and sisters

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

9:00AM Chip Tagland r/b Ron & Gail Bizzoso 9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:00 AM Ron Kramer r/b Gerri Boyle 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00 AM Brian & Mary Bones r/b Teri 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

4:30 PM Sr. Carol Jander, OSF Mary Immaculate r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:30 AM Sr. Maris Stella Lastra

r/b Franciscan Sisters

11:00 AM Alberto Librojo r/b Tess & children

Pope Francis' October Prayer Intentions: Missionary Disciples

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

Underwear and Sock Drive Catholic Charities Prison Ministry is collecting items for the inmates in the Camden Diocese who are in need of clothing. Some

correctional facilities only supply jumpsuits and many inmates have no means to buy clothing to wear under

the jumpsuits. See the flyer on the Faith and Justice table for the specific articles to donate.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE

SICK...Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark,



Grace Cobin, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

SPC Jordan Beckman, Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Major Anthony R. Cosentino, USAF, SSgt John P. DeYoung,

Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Lt. Christopher Mawn, Lt. (j.g.) Jacqueline A. McCabe, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Rimbaugh, Sisi Tyrrell, USMC, SPC Nicole Williams, and all those serving our country in the armed forces.

Adult Faith Formation Events for October

Teaching Mass Celebrated 10:30 AM Saturday, October 22 in the Parish Chapel.

The Eucharistic Revival in the Camden Diocese asks each parish to teach parishioners the meaning of each Mass part. Catholics have questions about the Mass or misunderstandings. Come and learn as Fr. Chris celebrates a teaching Mass for us. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

The Landscape of Our Prayer-10:00 AM Monday, October 31st & November 7th Parish Hall

Prayer takes different forms depending on the place our heart finds itself. This was true of Jesus as well. He was drawn to the desert and the mountain; places both literal and symbolic for Jesus as they are for each of us. In each life experience, our prayer can express itself differently. Come and explore the ways we can meet God in the landscape of our everyday lives. Sr. Claire D'Auria will be out presenter.

Call the Parish Office (856-424-3212) to register for each of these events.

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

The Gospel for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 23, 2022- Luke 18:9-14

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. "Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity greedy, dishonest, adulterous - or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.' But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Commentary:

Most of us grew up seeking rewards for a "job well done." Most of us desire the affirmation of a pleasant reward at the end of a hard work week. Is it surprising that we want the same affirmation from God that we're doing a good job keeping the commandments and following the rules of life? But the truth is; we don't have to seek God's approval. We're already loved beyond imagination, and forgiven beyond reason. All we have to do is what that humble tax collector does: admit that we are sinners. That won't make God mad. It makes us eligible for God's mercy.

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: Building a Culture of Life in a Post- Roe World (cont.)

"In a post –*Roe* world then, we must shift the paradigm to what St. John Paul II,

described as "radical solidarity", making the good of others our own good, including especially mothers, babies (born and pre-born), and families throughout the entire human lifespan. It is a call to friendship and compassion rooted in the truth that we are made to love our neighbor as ourselves…"

"The Catholic Church is the largest charitable provider of social services to women, children and families in the United States. Only the federal government through tax dollars does more. Catholics have already done much at both the institutional and personal level to help address the problems of poverty, healthcare, education, housing, employment, addiction, criminal justice, domestic violence, and the like that push women toward abortion. Our Church understands that parents, children, and families need help not just during pregnancy but throughout the whole of life's journey..."

Diocese of Camden Marian Pilgrimage Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Washington, DC Saturday, October 29, 2022 Cost per person \$35.00. Space is limited Call the Parish Office to register. 856-424-3212



October is Pro-Life Month

We proclaim that human life is a precious gift from God; that each person who receives this gift has responsibilities toward God, self and others; and that society, through its laws and social institutions, must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence.

St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us.

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS

Every parish in the Camden Diocese will be spending six weeks reflecting on the MASS.



This week you will find flyers at the doors of the Church highlighting Part 2, *The Liturgy of the Word.* If you miss any of the Mass parts flyers, please check

with the parish office and we will be happy to provide copies.

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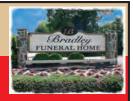


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