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

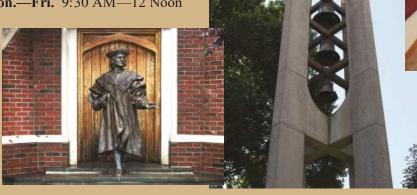
Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM in

the Chapel

First Saturdays: 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 Father Victorino Coronado, In Residence Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation Sister Rosangela Ganau, FMIJ, Catechetical Leader Julie Linn, Music Ministry Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary Sheila Tartamosa, Business Manager



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

DIRECTORY

Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover		Worship Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212
Christian Life/Education	Troinly Glover		Church Environment Ch. Art Environment	Committee Committee	
Bereavement	Staff	856- 424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers	Sr. Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	856- 344-7454	Lectors	Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann By	
•	Jon Lisitski jonll	1@comcast.net	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	856-912-7078	Sacristans	Greta Tyrrell Dom Sacca	856-428-2412
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	856-424-3212		Dave Bongiovanni	
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217		Joe Centonze	
Knights of Columbus	John Galati	856-424-3212	Ushers	Chico Febus	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	856-795-1160	Social Development Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	856-424-4008
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Rosangela Ganau,	856-424-3212	Bridge Groups	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Respect Life	Staff		Parish Festival	Committee	856-424-3212
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212	Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	856-424-2053		Lorraine Kennedy	856-489-0031
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		Administration		
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	856-428-7073	House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212
St. Vincent de Paul	Chico Febus	856-424-3212	Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	856-424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212	Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	856-751-8893
Welcoming Team	Shirley Kane	856-424-8022			

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, JANUARY 14, 2024

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



Inviting God,
You have called us to follow your
Son Jesus Christ,
and to live as temples of your Holy Spirit.
Help us to hear the voice of Jesus today,
reflect upon it,
and then give us the ability
to respond to what we hear
with generosity and obedience.
Amen

"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

The collection for Sunday, January 7, 2024, was \$ 6,059.63 The budgeted amount was \$8500.

Ultimately, we tithe to support our church and our community and to thank them for the support they give us. But tithing is also a way to thank God for blessings and make room for more blessings in the future. It is a way to sow, to *invest* in the church, so that all may reap the blessings to come – pressed down, shaken together, to make room for more.



To executing others to grow for passe in Jeressian, LRE and SHARE this were

Stewardship Corner: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewards Search

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?'" - JOHN 1:38

When we recognize ourselves as Christian Stewards, it's easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.

From the Pastor's Desk

The Harvest is Abundant . . .

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Scripture readings we hear the "call" to ministry/service of Samuel (1 Sam. 3) and of the two fishermen Andrew and Simon Peter (Jn. 1). These readings should remind us to reflect on the call to ministry (particularly as priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers) in our Catholic Church today.

For quite some time now, more priests die and retire each year than we see ordained for our diocese. For the past two years, regrettably, there were <u>no</u> scheduled priesthood ordinations. The *Diocese of Camden* was blessed for many years to have a fairly large number of priests to supply the needs of the people. Many rectories had two or more priests living in them. Things, however, have changed regarding the number of *active* priests. Fortunately, many *retired* priests in our diocese continue to supply some of our needs—especially Mass on the weekends.

Various Gospels (e.g., Luke 10: 1-12. 17-20 and Mt. 9: 32-38) contain the words of Jesus: *The harvest is abundant, but laborers are few.* . . . He tells us to *ask—to pray*—to the master of the harvest for workers. *Do we? Everyday? Do we pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our own families?*

I have heard it suggested to me on numerous occasions what the church needs is *married* priests or *women* priests. I know a married Orthodox priest who once told me, "Don't let them tell you that married priests is the solution to the vocation crisis. Our priests can marry, and we still have a shortage." Protestant ministers, who are usually married, tell me much of the same. They still see a decline in clergy (as well as church attendance). By the way, the option of women priests in the Roman Catholic Church was officially closed by **St. John Paul II** when he wrote the Apostolic Letter *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis* and stated:

Wherefore, in order that all doubt may be removed regarding a matter of great importance, a matter which pertains to the Church's divine constitution itself, in virtue of my ministry of confirming the brethren (cf. Lk 22:32) I declare that the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church's faithful.

For me, the crux of the problem is multi-faceted. Our society does not revolve around God or the importance of faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is minimized or seen as irrelevant. Many, if not most, Catholic families do not go to Mass each week, if they indeed go at all. Our cultural values teach the young to be successful and wealthy, but not necessary to do what God wants you to do. Priests, at times, have been ostracized (dare I say *demonized*?) and are seen as "suspect" by the media and others for the horrible and most-regrettable sins of a few. The moral authority of the Church is undermined, mocked and seen as extraneous to daily life. People are no longer taught or are willing to make *sacrifices* in life, as evidenced by a lack of those responding to a priestly or religious vocation (and even to the many demands required by married life).

I give tremendous credit to those men and women who answer the "call" today and attempt to follow the Lord's invitation to be a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother. The world needs them now more than ever to be bold, counter-cultural disciples in a world of confusion, doubt and even hatred towards all things **Christian**. The rest of us must continue to pray most fervently.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, JANUARY 14, 2024

Jan. 20/21

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Jeremy	R. Javier	C. Betson Smith	T. Johnson
8:30 AM	Fr. Coronado	Julie	Sr. Diana	S. Oatway	E. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta/Choir Julie	J. Flynn	L. Flynn	N. Flynn L. Vascisin



The Reading of this Sunday invites us to always be aware that the Lord may surprise us with HIS inspiration and we need to be ready to listen and respond. Often God surprises us with his loving way and

we need to be attentive so that we don't miss our opportunity to communicate with HIM. Let us continue to journey together, this year 2024, by keeping our relationship with God in listening to his Word with open heart, as today's reading suggests us, with the words of Samuel: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening".

REMINDERS:

<u>January 14:</u> Martin Luther King's Birthday – NO SESSION

<u>January 20</u>: <u>Saturday, 9:00-11:00: First Penance</u> <u>Retreat with children in the chapel and Parents</u> Meeting in the Parish Hall.

January 21: Sunday: 9:30-10:45: 8th grade, Confirmation II, Parents-children Meeting #2, in the chapel.

<u>January 27:</u> 7th-8th graders Confirmation Preparation Class with Fr. Ed Namiotka, our Pastor.

<u>January 28</u>: 7th grade Confirmation I: Parents-Children Meeting #2, in the chapel, 9:30-10:45



Volunteers Needed! Cherry Hill Food Pantry Dates:

Tues. February 6 --5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Thursday February 8—10:00

am to 1:00 pm

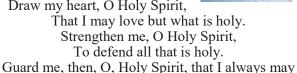
Tuesday, February 13 — 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm **Thursday, February 15** — 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

If you can help, please call Elaine: 856-428-8431

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit

That my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O, Holy Spirit That my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,



be holy.
Amen

(St. Augustine)

Mass for the Sanctity of Life
Catholic Church of St. Mary - 2001 Springdale
Rd, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
Wednesday, January 24, 2024 - 12:15pm
Are you a new or expectant mother?
Please come to Mass to receive a special
blessing. Questions? (856) 424-1454, ext. 102.

The St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry to the bereaved will meet on Thursday, January 25 at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the St.

Thomas More Parish Hall.

Our mission is to be a source of love, comfort, and support to those who experience loss through death. We work to reach out to those who experience loss, so they will feel the healing comfort of God through this faith community.

We hope you will allow us to walk alongside you through your grief journey as a companion who has seen the same terrain. Join us or call for more information. AnnMarie Lento 856-344-7454, Jon Lisitski 856-210-6466; Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053



SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

4:30 PM Jim Tobin r/b family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

8:30 AM Sherri Gardler r/b Hilda & Martin Block

11:00 AM Larry Lambert r/b Bill & Ann Vigrass & family

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 AM people of the parish

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

9:00 AM Intentions of Lori & Brandon Tyrrell r/b Greta

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

9:00 AM Living and deceased members of Morgan family in Ireland

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

9:00 AM Martin Egizi r/b Dom & Marie Sacca

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

9:00 AM Luigi & Maria Sabini r/b Sr. Clare

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

4:30 PM Gino S. (Maily) Maiale r/b Greg Wolfe

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

8:30 AM Raymond Wegmann r/b Mary & Ann 11:00 AM Anna Hoenisch

r/b Hilda & Marty Block

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions January 2024 For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.



† St.Vincent de Paul Members of our St. Vincent de **Paul Society** will be at the doors of the church next weekend to receive your donations of Neighbors helping neighbors! non-perishable food or monies to purchase same. They are

particularly asking for Canned vegetables, fruits and, soups; cereals, pasta and tomato sauce; peanut butter and jelly. Thank you for supporting the SVDP in their mission to 'feed the hungry'

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Joe



Centonze, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark, Grace Cobin, Alex Colon, Tammy Colon, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Helen Kane, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Grace Sklencar, Joe Sklencar, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ed Targonski, Sr., Roy Targonski, Ann Vigrass, Joanne Wachman, Sarah Warner, and Nicholas.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES... SPC Jordan Beckman, Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Major Anthony R. Cosentino,

Houston, USN, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Capt. Jennifer LaSalce, US Army, Capt. Christopher Mawn, Lt. Jacqueline A. McCabe, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sisi Tyrrell, USMC, SPC Nicole Williams, and all those serving our country.

Eucharistic Revival Quotes from Pope Francis

"The Bread of Life, in fact, heals rigidity and transforms it into docility. The Eucharist heals because it unites with Jesus: it makes us assimilate his way of living, his ability to break himself apart and give himself to brothers and sisters, to respond to evil with good. He gives us the courage to go outside of ourselves, and bend down with love toward the fragility of others. As God does with us." Angelus-June 6, 2021

Mall Walk for the Homeless Sunday, February 25, 2024 **Voorhees Town Center** Fun Activities begin at 1:30 PM Walk starts at 2:30 PM Rain, Snow, or Shine Registration is online at www.ihocsnj.org Registration fee is \$25 and includes a mall Walk T-shirt



SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, JANUARY 14, 2024

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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 21, 2024- Mark 1:14-20

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

<u>Commentary:</u> Repent and believe...what do these words really mean? Repent actually is a call to change, a willingness to change my thoughts and ways to those of God. Sometimes change is radical as we see with the disciples who leave their fishing boats and follow Jesus. More often than not, modest changes are more likely, that is, turning our little everyday behaviors, such as impatience, disrespect, gossiping or losing my temper to the more God-like behaviors of patience, respect, holding my tongue and my outbursts. These changes, radical or modest, are evidence of my belief in the Gospel of God, where the final answer is "love" and the gift I receive is God's presence, with me, for me and through me.

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: "Use your imagination to see what abortion really is! Fight against the kind of social stupor that gripped Nazi Germany – the feeling that the problem is so huge and so horrendous and so out of our

control that I just can't be wrong to let it be."John Piper, Theologian, Author, Pastor and Chancellor of Bethlehem College & Seminary

Register for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter parish experience Sunday and Wednesday evenings beginning February 18 and concluding March 10 at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Williamstown. Each Sunday session will begin at 5:00 and include a light dinner; each Wednesday session will begin at 6:30 and will be virtual. A \$100 application fee covers most of the cost, however, you will be asked to make a good faith offering at the end of the program. For more information contact: 609-741-8012 or wwwme-southjersey.org

Parish Giving announces that contributions statements for the calendar year 2023 will be emailed to those participating in online giving. Look for your statement to appear in your inbox this month.



January is Poverty Awareness Month!

During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. bishops, the <u>Catholic Campaign for Human</u>
<u>Development</u> and the Catholic Community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor.

<u>Daily Reflections</u> include ways to learn about poverty, get inspired by how communities are responding and take action with others.



Do you need a ride to Mass? Are you willing and able to pick up a parishioner for Mass? St. Thomas More Parish is taking names for a new ministry.

Please call the Parish Office if you need a ride. Please call the Parish Office if you are willing to pick someone up for Mass. 856-424-3212.



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