

# 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)

## 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](mailto:stmsecretary1439@gmail.com) by 2:00pm Monday

## DIRECTORY

### Parish Trustees

Jeannine Mc Menamin

Henry Glover

### Christian Life/Education

Bereavement

Consolation Ministry

Faith & Justice Team

Hospital Visitors

Intercessory Prayer

Knights of Columbus

Marriage Formation

Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Respect Life

Rite of Ch. Init. Adults

Rosary Ministry

Small Christian Comm.

Spiritual Retreats

St. Vincent de Paul

Stewardship

Welcoming Team

Staff 856- 424-3212

Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454

Jon Lisitski [jonll1@comcast.net](mailto:jonll1@comcast.net)

Chris Baeckstrom 856-912-7078

Staff & Euch. Ministers 856-424-3212

Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217

Brian Haughwout 609-458-7851

Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 856-795-1160

Sr. Clare Sabini 856-424-3212

Ann Vigrass 856- 428-7217

Staff

Sister Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212

Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053

Sr. Ann Byrnes

John Galati 856-428-7073

Chico Febus 856- 278-2069

Sheila Tartamosa 856-424-3212

Shirley Kane 856-424-8022

### Worship

Altar Servers

Church Environment

Ch. Art Environment

Eucharistic Ministers

Lectors

Linen Committee

Sacristans

### Ushers

### Social Development

Bridge Groups

Funsters (over 50 club)

Parish Festival

Women's Club

### Administration

House of Charity

Parish Finance Council

Parish Pastoral Council

Sister Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212

Committee

Committee

Sr. Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212

Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes

Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217

Greta Tyrrell 856-428-2412

Dom Saccia

Dave Bongiovanni

Joe Centonze

Chico Febus

Joyce DeMichele 856-424-4008

Barbara Cerquitella 856-795-7323

Lin Lyon 856-795-4396

Committee

Barbara Cerquitella 856-795-7323

Lorraine Kennedy 856-489-0031

Sheila Tartamosa 856-424-3212

Robert Crawford 856-424-3212

Marie Enny 856-751-8893

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 4, 2022

### 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



Father in heaven,  
our hearts desire the warmth of your love  
and our minds are searching for the light  
of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ our Savior  
and give us the strength to grow in love,  
that the dawn of his coming  
may find us rejoicing in his presence  
and welcoming the light of his truth.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Amen



**Mitten and Sock Tree:** Help us keep hands warm this winter by **donating mittens, gloves and socks of any size.** We appreciate any and all donations. **Please leave them in the parish office or in the box in the Gathering Space.**

**Thursday, December 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Mass schedule for the

Holy Day is **9:00 AM & 7:00 PM.**

There will be no Adoration on December 8th.

The Parish Office will be closed.



"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*

### Stewardship Corner: 2nd Sunday of Advent Christmas Stewardship

*"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."* MATTHEW 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused? Our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God. **What we do with our Stewardship is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?**



## From the Pastor's Desk An Advent Weekend with Marriage Encounter

Dear Parishioners,

*Advent* originated as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas. This weekend, the *Second Sunday of Advent*, I am away from the parish presenting a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** in Ocean City, NJ.

When I was a newly ordained priest, a couple from my parish asked me to make a Marriage Encounter Weekend. As you might expect, my reaction was somewhat puzzled. I am obviously not married. What would be the benefit of me attending such a weekend?

Almost 35 years later, I can honestly say that this experience (and its aftermath) had one of the most profound and lasting effects on me as a person and on my priestly ministry. This is probably *not* something that I would have chosen to do on my own. It would certainly *not* have been on my bucket list. Yet, what happened as a result can only be described as truly life-changing. And it was thanks to a couple who simply invited me to try such an experience.

I have been presenting the Marriage Encounter Weekend, usually once or twice a year, for nearly 35 years now. Together with a team of three couples, we share a series of talks to couples (and sometimes to priests and religious) with the goal of *making good marriages better*. The Marriage Encounter Weekend is not primarily designed for troubled marriages. (There are experiences such as *Retrouvaille* for this purpose.) The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is meant to open up the lines of communication between husband and wife in what is essentially a private experience between the two.

What it did for me *personally* was to help me understand married couples (and their families) better, to open up lines of communication, to better understand my relationship to the Church—the *Body of Christ*—and also to identify and communicate my feelings. Feelings, in particular, are not something most men know how to deal with or might not realize the importance of in the first place.

Ladies, have you ever felt that your husband sometimes doesn't seem to understand you? Guys, are your wives sometimes still a mystery to you in many ways? Do you both ever wonder if there is more to marriage and to life than what you are currently experiencing? Then maybe it's time to try a Marriage Encounter Weekend. You can be newly-married or married for fifty years or more. It does not matter. The weekend can help to make any marriage better.

If you are married and desire more for your marriage, I invite you to consider attending such a weekend. For further information, you can check out the South Jersey Worldwide Marriage Encounter website ([wwme-southjersey.org](http://wwme-southjersey.org)) or call the information line at 609-741-8012.

Many people are afraid of the unknown, afraid of change or may not want to “rock the boat.” I invite you and ask you to suggest to your spouse the possibility of attending an upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekend.

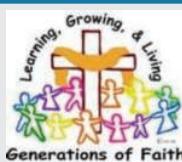
I can only tell you from personal experience that it indeed has life-changing possibilities!

*Fr. Ed Namiotka*  
Pastor

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 4, 2022

### Ministry Schedule for December 10/11

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	R. Javier	K. McFadden	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	K. Witts	K. Kraemer	Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	T. Librojo	J. Johnson	S. Andino



Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. It is often decorated with berries and pinecones. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life.

The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us.

During the Advent season, we eagerly anticipate his coming and the promise of eternal life in heaven with him.

**The Four Advent Candles.** As a Christian tradition, the wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the 'Christ candle.' Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent:

**Week Two:** [Pray the Advent wreath prayer for week two](#), Candle Name: the Bethlehem Candle

The Second Week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation, Candle Color: Purple

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem

**Color:** Purple

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice.



Second Sunday of Advent



**Dolly Staton received a special blessing from Father Ed as she celebrated 90 years of life. We are grateful for Dolly's presence in our parish!**



**Lions Club Pancake Breakfast with Santa**



**Cancelled**

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 4, 2022

### Weekly Intentions



#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

4:30 PM Intentions of Carol Ann Brennan  
r/b Helen Protzman

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:30 AM Intentions of Marian Castillo  
r/b Cristina Castillo

11:00 AM Michael Vigrass r/b family

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00AM Eileen Cafagna r/b Helen Protzman  
9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:00AM Living & Deceased members of Morgan family in Ireland

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00AM Ron Kramer r/b Gerri Boyle

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:00 AM Kathleen Haughwout  
r/b Brian Haughwout

NO Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 PM Jenny Barber r/b family

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00 AM Mary Lou & Dudley Thomas  
r/b Ron & Gail Bizzoso

9:30 AM—Eucharistic Adoration—Chapel

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

4:30 PM May O'Brien r/b Pat & Mike Hendricks family

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:30AM Sheila Mohan r/b Thompson family

11:00AM Gladys Barrientos r/b family

#### Pope Francis' December Prayer Intentions:

##### Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

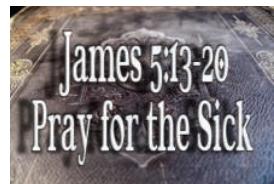
We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

#### Second Collection NEXT Weekend Retirement Fund for Religious

Nearly 25,000 senior sisters and brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry— educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. **Your support of the Retirement fund for Religious helps furnish care and other necessities.** Please give generously.

#### 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.*



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 4, 2022  
3:00 PM St. Thomas More Church



Advent  
Communal Penance Service  
7:00 PM  
December 14, 2022  
Christ Our Light  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
All Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 4, 2022

### 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 Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2022- Matthew 11:2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

#### Commentary:

From the dark of prison and on the brink of death, John asks an urgent question: "Are you the one...or should we look for another?" Jesus honors the question by providing an answer; moreover, his answer is specific and concrete - the blind see, the lame walk, etc. John's question must become our own: Is Jesus the One for us, or are we really looking for another?

#### 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: Affordable Housing for Unplanned pregnancy:** Maternity homes: The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services operates the Maternity Group Homes for Pregnant and Parenting Youth (MGH) to support homeless pregnant and/or parenting young people as well as their dependent children. Youth must be between the ages of 16 and 22 to enter the program. The National Maternity Housing Coalition (NMHC) of over 400 maternity housing programs can help you find a residential maternity home that is able to meet your needs.

#### **St. Thomas More Parish**

[sthomasmore@comcast.net](mailto:sthomasmore@comcast.net)

stthomasmorenj.org

A D V E N T 2022

#### Confessions throughout Advent

Saturdays 3:00-4:00 PM

#### Regional Penitential Service

Wednesday, December 14 7:00 PM

Christ Our Light Parish

Cherry Hill

Large number of Confessors present

#### CHRISTMAS MASSES

#### Christmas Eve

4:00 PM and 6:00 PM

#### Christmas Day

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

#### NEW YEAR'S MASSES

#### Mary Mother of God

December 31 4:30 PM

January 1 8:30 & 11:00 AM



#### Angel Tree Project



Parishioners who were successful in taking a tag from the Angel Tree are reminded to bring the unwrapped gift with the Angel Tag on it to the Gathering Space by December 11, 2022

#### A Prayer for the Second Sunday in Advent

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him  
in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Second Sunday of Advent

YOUR  
Catholic  
Cemetery

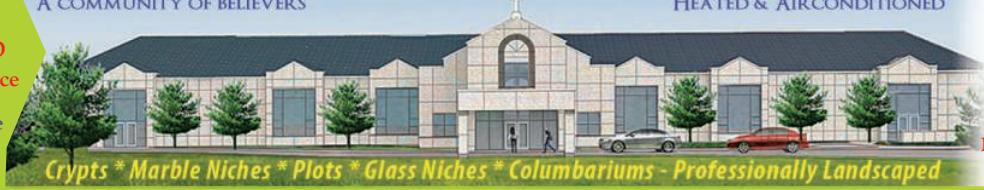
CONSECRATED  
Holy & Sacred Place

St. Thomas More  
Parishioner  
Discount

## JESUS, BREAD OF LIFE Cemetery & Mausoleum

A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

HEATED & AIRCONDITIONED



Crypts \* Marble Niches \* Plots \* Glass Niches \* Columbariums - Professionally Landscaped

1.5 MILES FROM ROUTE 295 | 3055 FOSTERTOWN ROAD, MOUNT LAUREL NEW JERSEY | (856) 317-6400 | [WWW.CATHOLICCEMETERIESOUTHJERSEY.ORG](http://WWW.CATHOLICCEMETERIESOUTHJERSEY.ORG)

NEW

A Ministry of Hope  
in Eternal Life

PRE-PLANNING OPTIONS

AVAILABLE: 0%/24 MONTHS

MILITARY/KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

1ST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT



**\$350  
Off**

Any New Stairlift  
With This Ad

- FREE in home evaluations
- Family owned & operated for more than 20 years

**1.888.900.8883**

[www.Tri-StateStairlifts.com](http://www.Tri-StateStairlifts.com)

**tri-state  
STAIRLIFTS**



Let them know you saw their ad in the weekly church bulletin!

# Morgan

basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

French Drains  
Foundation Repair  
Mold Remediation

All Work Guaranteed

**877-401-4777**

[www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com](http://www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com)

## Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...

Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!



[www.MallorysArmy.com](http://www.MallorysArmy.com)

(973) 440-8657

[info@mallorysarmy.org](mailto:info@mallorysarmy.org)

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:

Text **MALLORYSARMY** to 22828 to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

### RIDEShare ZONE

S top  
A sk  
M atch  
I nform

#WHATSMYNAME



American  
Red Cross

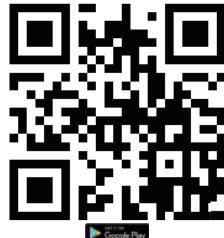
Make a Difference in Your Community

**VOLUNTEER**

with the American Red Cross

Join today at [redcross.org/Volunteer](http://redcross.org/Volunteer)

## OUR SPONSORS & OUR COMMUNITY



Sponsors can offer promotions, discounts and/or up-to-date contact information to the **ENTIRE** community



**ANYONE** in the community, not only Parishioners, can access realtime offers from their favorite sponsors to save, share & support





# BRADLEY FUNERAL HOME



*“Celebrating 50 Years of Commitment to Community”*

Jill Bradley Ingram, Mgr., N.J. Lic. No. 4226 • Wilson R. Bradley, N.J. Lic. No. 2917 • Patrick P. Smarrito, N.J. Lic. No. 3571

Brian J. Barnett, N.J. Lic. No. 3909 • Kevin T. Comber, N.J. Lic. No. 4660 • Elizabeth S. Briggs, N.J. No. 4992

Phone: 856-983-1005 • Route 73 & Evesham Rd., Marlton • [www.BradleyFHMarlton.com](http://www.BradleyFHMarlton.com)

**McNulty  
Roofing**

**SIDING & WINDOWS**  
*DONE THE WAY THINGS USED  
TO BE DONE, WITH PRIDE.*  
In Cherry Hill  
Over 30 Years  
**856-667-4545**  
[www.mcnuityroofingandsidingco.com](http://www.mcnuityroofingandsidingco.com)

Advertise  
Your Business  
Here  
800-333-3166  
ext. 161  
[www.jppc.net](http://www.jppc.net)

**DOUGLAS A. FENDRICK, ESQUIRE**  
ELDER LAW  
ESTATE PLANNING  
SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING  
LIFE CARE PLANNING



1950 Route 70 East  
Suite 200  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003  
**(856) 489-8388**  
LIFE REQUIRES PLANNING [www.fendrickmorganlaw.com](http://www.fendrickmorganlaw.com)

# BOCCO FUNERAL HOME

Joseph C. Bocco, Jr., Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 3323

Nicholas Joseph Lukaszewicz, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5119

1300 North Kings Hwy. • Cherry Hill

(856) 795-5991

[www.boccofuneralhome.com](http://www.boccofuneralhome.com)



Independent Catholic  
college-prep school  
for girls grades 9-12

Live Mercy. Seek Justice.

With transportation for South Jersey students!

Over 30 girls from NJ love life here!  
VISIT DAYS FOR 8TH GRADERS OCT.-DEC.

catholicmatch®  
New Jersey



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

Family Owned and  
Operated Since 1987



FREE INSPECTION  
Licensed & Insured

## RIGHTWAY WATERPROOFING CO.

BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

MOLD REMEDIATION

FOUNDATION REPAIR



**856-317-1111**



[www.RightwayWaterproofing.com](http://www.RightwayWaterproofing.com)

# SCHETTER FUNERAL HOME

304 W. Route 70 • Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

[www.schetterfh.com](http://www.schetterfh.com) • 856-429-8545

William A. Schetter III, Manager, Lic. # 4826 • William A. Schetter, Jr. Director, Lic. # 3393

Edmund J. Putnick, Director, Lic. # 3949 • Justin M. Megaro, Director, Lic. # 4958