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 ÅM 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

Welcoming Team





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

Shirley Kane



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			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	Brian Haughwout	609-458-7851	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. Clare Sabini	856-424-3212	Bridge Groups	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Ann Vigrass	856- 428-7217	Parish Festival	Committee	856-424-3212
Respect Life	Staff		Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212		Lorraine Kennedy	856-489-0031
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	856-424-2053	Administration		
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	856-428-7073	Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	856-424-3212
St. Vincent de Paul	Chico Febus	856-424-3212	Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	856-751-8893
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212			

856-424-8022

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



Lord, as we enter this most sacred week
of our Church year,
may we especially listen to the voice of Jesus!
Open the ears of our hearts,
to hear the great love you have for us.
Inspire us to always faithfully live as
His disciples and make us worthy
to share in His Resurrection.





"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, March 26, 2023 was: \$6188 from 110 donations. The budgeted amount for this week was \$8500. A parish, like every family, runs on a budget.



Money coming in must be greater than money going out. It is through the consistent generosity of all of our parishioners that we are able to maintain a vibrant parish, keep up with maintenance, and plan long-term projects for the improvement of our parish buildings. *Thank You for your generosity*.

We will be taking up 2 collections during Holy Week: Holy Thursday: The Poor and Needy Collection Good Friday: The Holy Land Collection.

Thank you for your donations to these collections.

Stewardship Corner: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Stewards Carry Crosses

"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him "carry his cross." These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

From the Pastor's Desk—

What Have You Done for Me Lately?

Dear Parishioners,

Back in 1986, Janet Jackson asked this question in a popular song. It seemed to fall in line with a number of other songs from the decade (e.g., *Material Girl* by Madonna, *Need You Tonight* by INXS, 1999 by Prince) that dealt in some way with selfishness or egocentricity. It was a time in which people were popularly referred to as the "Me" Generation. One dictionary defined this "Me" Generation the following way: *Noun.* (Sociology) the generation, originally in the 1970s, characterized by self-absorption; in the 1980s, characterized by material greed.

Jesus Christ is the absolute antithesis of all of this.

As I reflect on the upcoming events of Holy Week, I can't help but think about what Jesus has done for us. The Second Person of the Blessed Trinity who is almighty, omniscient, transcendent, eternal, etc., became limited, finite, tangible and visible for us in the man, *Jesus of Nazareth*. He was now capable of suffering and dying.

Moreover, He did everything *for us*. He was born to live among us and to reveal God's love to us. He gave us the Holy Eucharist as his real abiding presence among us and to feed us spiritually. He suffered and died for us to free us from our sins and to give us eternal life. He rose from the dead to invite us to share in His heavenly glory.

I don't see an ounce of selfishness or greed here. What did He personally gain? No big ego was at work. He would not be a good contestant for *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*.

St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians says it so beautifully:

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil. 2: 6-8)

Obedient, humble, self-giving, and sacrificial are just a few words that come to mind immediately whenever I think about Jesus, His life and actions.

Whenever people look at me and tell me that they can't find (or is it make?) time for Mass, that God is not really that important for them right now, or that they just don't care, I sigh from the depths of my being. I think: You don't get it, do you? How much the Son of God endured and sacrificed on our behalf? What He did for me, for you, for us? It's sad. Very sad.

Jesus' words from the cross ring ever true: *Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.* (Lk. 23:34)

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

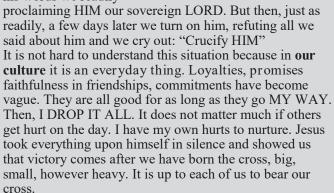
Ministry Schedule for April 6/7/8/9

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
April 6 7:00 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	J. Galati	L. Galati	L. & G. Hutchinson C. Oatway M. Marsden
April 7 3:00 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	J. DeMichele	D. Miller L C. Betson Smith V	A., C., R. Witts T. Johnson
April 8 8:00 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	B. Massey	S. Kane J. Cepeda	3 volunteers needed
April 9 8:30 AM PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	K. Witts	K. Kraemer	A., C., R. Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	D. Staton J. Galati	J. Johnson	G. & L. Hutchinson



Palm Sunday 2023, We imagine ourselves with that crowd,

celebrating the presence of JESUS in front of us. Having seen his miracles and heard his words we readily



In our present world our moral compass is not only important but necessary. Progress comes always at a price, and to bring changes that improve the life of all, there is always some price to pay. Otherwise, it is not progress. We have an important task to accomplish in our life, our own holiness. All the rest is garbage and passing gratification. We get content with our own ways and make them look good, we rationalize their real usefulness, and then we fail to see the real good, that which is GOD's will and purpose. One thing only remains "Jesus' love for us and our Love for JESUS and our

Its never too late to say:



To everyone who attended the last Knights of Columbus Dining for Dollars Social, we say Thank YOU. Your support allows us to continue with our outreach programs.



Mark your calendar, Easter Egg Hunt at Saint Mary's Church Saturday, April 8th at 10am.

Kids up to 4th grade are invited to look for eggs, and all ages are invited for refreshments and fun.





Special *THANK YOU* to the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly #1748 - Bishop Justin J McCarthy for donating a NEW Papal Flag and USA Flag to be displayed on our front lawn.

neighbor. We need to give moral and spiritual values to our children and especially adolescents and teens. They look for happiness and truth in all the wrong places. YET, real true joy is right within their reach, in themselves and in JESUS.



SATURDAY, APRIL1

9:00 AM Intentions of Fr. Ed r/b Mary & Jimmy 4:30 PM Deceased members of Camma family r/b Beckman family

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

8:30AM Daniel A. Maher r/b Katherine McCabe **11:00AM** Bridget Namiotka r/b family

MONDAY, APRIL 3

9:00AM People of the Parish

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

9:00AM living and deceased Morgans in Ireland 9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

9:00AM Kathleen Samaras r/b Ron & Gail Bizzoso

9:30AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper People of the Parish

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

3:00 PM Good Friday Service 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

SATURDAYAPRIL 8

12Noon Blessing of Easter baskets 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

8:30 AM Vincent E. & Vincent John Tyrrell r/b family

11:00 AM Emilia Marchesani r/b Vince

There will be NO Adoration
Thursday, April 6th, or Friday April 7th.
Adoration will resume in the Chapel after the 9:00
AM Mass on Monday, April 10th.

Pope Francis' April Prayer Intentions

For a culture of peace and non-violence We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

Simple Living –God's Vision of Abundant Life Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Meeting Room

Call the Parish Office 856-424-3212 to Register

St. Thomas More Parish will host an interactive event where you will learn and discuss with other parishioners about what Simple Living is and how it is an integral part of our faith. In this one-hour session you will be able to understand how we can begin the process of simplifying our lifestyle, while enriching our spiritual lives.

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 Con-



sole, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Fr. George Donfurtang, Annamarie Garber, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Carter Oakley, Fr. Brian O'Neill, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Eleanor Rizzo, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Joseph M. Sklencar, Sr., Jean Smyth, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Roy Targonski, 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. Jacqueline A. McCabe, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sisi Tyrrell, USMC, SPC Nicole Williams, and *all those serving our country*.

Support the 2023 South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal. www.camdendiocese.org Thank YOU!



Your support of the 2023 South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching and redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ throughout Southern New Jersey.

St. Thomas More goal: \$89, 700 We need your help to meet this goal. To date we have received \$15,325 from 38 donors. Thank you to all who have already contributed.

Sunday, April 30, 2023, Cooper River Park (Jack Curtis Stadium | 5300 North Park Drive Pennsauken) for the annual

Pennsauken) for the annual iRace4Vocations. Bishop Sullivan will calabrate a Mass

Sullivan will celebrate a Mass for Vocations at 1 p.m. followed by a 5K run/1 mile family walk. For more information and to register for the event, visit

<u>camdenpriest.org/irace4vocations</u>.



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 Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023 - John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in...and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

Commentary:

Easter is not just a day on the church calendar. It's a season that lasts seven weeks. It's also a way of life for Christians, since every Sunday is considered a "little Easter" when Christ is present in the community once more. Our faith in the events of Easter Sunday make the difference between the gospel as the story of a hero long ago, and the story of salvation alive and well in our assembly today. So what will we do this Easter Sunday? Approach the tomb in the dark and see the stone removed, like Mary Magdalene? Will we enter the empty space, like Peter and the other disciple, and not understand what's happened? Will we find the tomb open and believe without seeing? And what will our faith prompt us to do next?

Questions for Reflection

- 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:

"...is it surprising that today we have become so morally blind (for wickedness blinds) that we save the baby whales at great cost, and murder millions of unborn

children?" -Alice von Hildebrand

EASTER SCHEDULE – 2023

Sacrament of Reconciliation Every Saturday 3-4 PM

(Not on Holy Saturday)

Passion (Palm) Sunday Masses

Saturday - 4:30 PM

SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday

"Mass of the Lord's Supper" – 7:00 PM Adoration at the Repository in the Chapel until 10 PM

Good Friday

(A day of fast and abstinence)
Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3PM
Stations of the Cross – 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets – 12 noon Easter Vigil 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday

Masses 8:30 and 11:00 AM Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Chrism Mass 3:30PM Tuesday, April 4th at St. Agnes Church (Our Lady of Hope Parish), Blackwood.



Victims of Nashville School Shooting

We pray for the Victims and their families: Evelyn Dieckhaus, Hallie Scruggs, and William Kinney—all 9 years old; and adults Cynthia Peak, 61; Katherine Koonce, 60; and Mike Hill, 61.

We need to pray but also ACT against gun violence in our country.

SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO ATTEND

<u>Gun Violence Prevention</u>

May 22, 7:00 PM St. Thomas More Meeting

Room

We will have speakers from Moms Demand Action including a gun violence survivor. They will talk about the human cost of gun violence and what we can do about it.

Live Your Best Life In LOVE!

Restore, Rekindle and Renew your relationship this Easter season! Register For A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Parish Experience.** Sunday and Wednesday Evenings beginning April 16 and concluding May 10. Saints Peter and Paul Parish 362 Ganttown Road Turnersville, NJ 08012 For more information: wwme-southjersey.org or call 609-741 -8012

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