

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

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

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement

Consolation Ministry

Staff 856- 424-3212
Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454
Jon Lisitski jonl11@comcast.net

Faith & Justice Team

Hospital Visitors

Intercessory Prayer

Knights of Columbus

Marriage Formation

Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.

Respect Life

Rite of Ch. Init. Adults

Rosary Ministry

Small Christian Comm.

Spiritual Retreats

St. Vincent de Paul

Stewardship

Welcoming Team

Chris Baeckstrom 856-912-7078
Staff & Euch. Ministers 856-424-3212
Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217
John Galati 856-424-3212
Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 856-795-1160
Sr. Rosangela Ganau, 856-424-3212
Staff
Sister Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212
Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053
Sr. Ann Byrnes
John Galati 856-428-7073
Chico Febus 856- 424-3212
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

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 Sacca
Dave Bongiovanni
Joe Centonze
Chico Febus

Joyce DeMichele 856-424-4008
Barbara Cerquitella 856-795-7323
Committee 856-424-3212
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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 11, 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



God of all people,
remind us that your love knows
no boundaries.
You love the outcasts and the oppressed
with a love that is fierce
in its protection and grace.
When our lives get too comfortable
nudge us into going beyond
our own boundaries,
bringing others into the warmth of our communities.
Through Christ our Lord.
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, February 4, 2024, was \$ 7321.83. The budgeted amount was \$8500. Giving thanks is an important part of living faithfully. When you tithe, you are showing gratitude for how your church supports you. We are so grateful for this support. Without you, our mission to spread God’s word would be impossible.



Stations of the Cross will be held in the Chapel at 7:00 PM every Friday during Lent. All are encouraged to take part in this Lenten Devotion.

Stewardship Corner: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewardship Priorities

“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”
- 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

Do a quick check of your Stewardship priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He’s not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other “gods” (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, “Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?”

From the Pastor's Desk
A Look Ahead

Dear Parishioners,

While the anticipation of the Super Bowl permeates this weekend in the secular world, **Lent** begins for Christians on **Ash Wednesday**, February 14, 2024. It is a time for increased *prayer, fasting and almsgiving*. This sacred time is meant to be different from the rest of the year in preparation for the events of Holy Week and Easter. I pray you take the season seriously as we preach the call to ***Repent, and believe in the Gospel!*** *Stations of the Cross* will be added every Friday in Lent at 7 PM.

At the end of the month, we will have our annual **Parish Mission** from Monday, February 26 to Wednesday, February 28 at 7 PM. This year the preacher will be **Fr. Allain Caparas**. I was fortunate to have Fr. Caparas as my parochial vicar as a newly ordained priest in 2006. Since then he has served at various parishes, as a high school principal, and is now pastor at *Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish* in Glassboro. Please mark these dates on your calendar as we anticipate the inspiring preaching of Fr. Caparas.

As I had mentioned several months ago, *St. Thomas More Parish* will now begin the application process to seek a committed, active Catholic to serve as the ***Coordinator of Catechesis, Lifelong Faith Formation and Evangelization***. This position will be responsible for oversight of all catechetical ministry to every age group within the parish. The coordinator initiates, organizes and facilitates various programs and services relating directly to the evangelization and the education of parishioners in the Catholic faith. The coordinator seeks to meet the needs of parishioners in the areas of catechetics, youth and young adult ministry, adult faith formation, and sacramental preparation, including adult Christian initiation. The applicant must be a practicing Catholic in good standing in the Church with an in-depth knowledge of the Catholic faith (*BA*, or *MA* preferred). The coordinator must have working knowledge of computers and technology. The applicant must be willing to be involved in the spiritual life of *St. Thomas More Parish*. Salary and weekly hours are negotiable. This position reports directly to the pastor. Anyone who wishes to apply for this position should submit a résumé to me personally, by regular mail or e-mail (fr.namiotka@gmail.com). The appointment of this position will be made before the end of the fiscal year in June.

Finally, please continue to pray for my mom as she is now on hospice care and has begun her preparation to journey back to God. My mom is 90 years old and has been very close to me since the sudden death of my father in 1995. I know her time is short (days, weeks, months?) and I will certainly miss her as her first-born son. My brothers, sister and I appreciate your continued prayers for her.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Ministry Schedule February 17/18, 2024

4:30 PM	Fr. Coronado	Len	Sr. Sophia	J. Bland Campbell	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Celine Julie	B. Massey	T. Smith	A., C., R. Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Celine/Choir Julie	M. Garber	J. Johnson	L. Vascisin L. Flynn



A Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2024

“When the Lord calls out to Moses from the burning bush, he immediately shows that he is a God who sees and, above all, hears: “I have observed the misery of my

people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey” (Ex 3:7-8).

Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? Let’s slow down, then, and pause! In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God’s dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind”

“ I bless all of you and your Lenten Journey.”

Pope Francis

REMINDERS:

February 14: ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18: First Sunday of Lent - NO SESSION -
(Long Weekend- President Day)

February 24 (Saturday): Celebration of the First Penance in the Chapel - for the second graders. Time 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

March 9, (Saturday) at 9:00 am to 12:00 pm:
Confirmation Preparation Classes taught by Fr. Ed our Pastor (bring with you the book “Decision Point”).



St. Thomas More Parish Family rejoices with Jack & Erin Fondacaro at the baptism of their daughter, Lily Therese on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

Welcome to the family, Lily!



Members of our St. Vincent de Paul Society will be at the doors of the church next weekend to receive your donations of 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.’

Are you able to help?
Some parishioners from St. Mary’s Village, (right behind us) need rides to Mass. Please call the Parish Office (856-424-3212) if you can help fill this need.



St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry meeting: 1:00 PM February 29, 2024 in the 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. Ann Marie Lento 856-344-7454; Jon Lisitski 856-210-6466; Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053**

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Weekly Intentions



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:30 PM Fr. Phillip Johnson
r/b Tomas & Marie Manalo

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:30 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson
r/b Joanne Wachman

11:00 AM Rose & Patrick McMenamin
r/b Jeannine

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

9:00 AM people of the parish
9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:00 AM Intentions of Sr. Maria De Rosa, FMIJ
r/b Franciscan Sisters
9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

**9:00 AM Living and deceased members of
Morgan family in Ireland**
9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel
4:00 PM Ash Service
7:00 PM People of the Parish

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

**9:00 AM Intentions of Maria Lourdes Ibay
& Joseph Ibay** r/b Mom & Dad
9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory
r/b Michael Calingasan
9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross in the Chapel

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

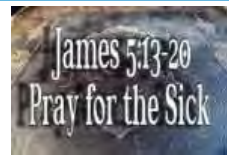
4:30 PM Rev. Phillip Johnson
r/b Chris Betson Smith

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:30 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson
r/b Franciscan Sisters
11:00 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson
r/b Bill & Ann Vigrass

**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, Linda
Di Giulio, 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, USAF, TSgt. John P.
DeYoung, Sam 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**

“In the Eucharist, fragility is strength:
the strength of the love that becomes
small so it can be welcomed and not
feared; the strength of the love that is
broken and shared so as to give life; the strength of the
love that is split apart so as to join all of us in unity”
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



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions February 2024
For the terminally ill**

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their
families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual
care and accompaniment.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 11, 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 First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2024 - Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, 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."

Commentary:

On this first Sunday of Lent, we hear Mark's version of Jesus being tempted in the desert. Jesus begins with this confrontation with evil. The rest of his life and work will continue this great battle: casting out demons, healing, struggling for the truth against corrupt leaders and even the blindness of his own disciples. Through it all, he proclaims the good news that the time of God's reign is now. God's truth and love is stronger than distortion and injustice. Believe the good news and it can change your life.

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: "There are two ways: the way of life and the way of death, and the difference between these two ways is great. Therefore, do not murder a child by abortion or kill a newborn infant."— **The Didache** 1.1; 2.2

2024 APPEAL: "THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM"

This year's theme: "Through Him and For Him" continues our focus on the nation-wide Eucharist Revival and reminds us that "in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself."

This reminds us Christ is central in our lives and present in the Eucharist. Your individual gift to this Appeal will become one of many that unites and builds up the one Body of Christ. Through our various ministries across the diocese your gift is shared and brings comfort, relief, encouragement and support to many.

In preparation, you should receive a mailing from Bishop Sullivan that will include the 2024 *South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal* materials. I ask that you please consider donating to this year's campaign. It is important that we come together to support our ministries. They need the resources necessary to continue serving those in need. Pledge cards are also available at the doors of the Church.

By supporting the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, you are supporting those who comprise the programs and ministries of the Diocese of Camden. These ministries serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the hungry and challenged. When we support the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, we can bring the light of hope to those in the Catholic community of South Jersey.

Please prayerfully consider joining us once again.



Support Gun Safety

On the anniversary of the death of Ethan Song, join his family and other advocates to tell your senator and representative to **support S.173/ H. R. 660 which would require gun owners to store weapon safely and securely.** Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens, with nearly 4.6 million children living in homes with unsecured weapon. Responsible gun owners must include safe and secure storage to prevent access for minors and others who lawfully cannot possess a firearm.

Rep. Donald Norcross (856) 427-7000
Senator Cory Booker (973) 639-8700



February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday is a Holy Day.

Mass Schedule is 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM
Prayer Service at 4:00 PM
There will be a collection for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe.

Preparing for Confirmation? Need Volunteer Hours?

Cherry Hill Food Pantry Dates:

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.**



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