

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



Father Edward Namiotka, Pastor

Father Victorino Coronado, In Residence

Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation

Sister Rossangela Ganau, FMIJ, Catechetical Leader

Julie Linn, Music Ministry

Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary

Sheila Tartamosa, Business Manager

Rite of Reconciliation Saturday

3:00—4:00 PM

In the Chapel

First Fridays after the 9:00 AM Mass



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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

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

Staff 856- 424-3212

Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454

Jon Lisitski jonll1@comcast.net

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 Saccia

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 21, 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



Lord, take me where you want me to go.
Let me welcome everyone who You
wish me to greet.
Transform me to be a good shepherd
toward all whom I meet.
Guide me on the best way to pray.
May my words and actions express
faith in every way.



Please join us Sunday,
April 28th at the 11:00
AM Mass as we show
our appreciation and
thanks to Sr. Ann
Byrnes, RSM.

Sr. Ann has served St. Thomas More Parish faithfully for 15 years. Her years of service to God and others are a wonderful witness to all of us. God has blessed us with her ministry.

The collection for Sunday, April 14th was \$6,022.93. The budgeted amount was \$8500.

“Giving is more than a responsibility—it is a privilege; more than an act of obedience— it is evidence of our faith.” William Arthur Ward



“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: 4th Sunday of Easter Stewards Listen

“I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice.” - JOHN 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? **Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from his Steward?** How do you listen for His response? Many times, Jesus responds in “quiet whispers” that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

From the Pastor's Desk

God's Grace

Dear Parishioners,

God's **Grace** is truly amazing to me. There are many ways of thinking about how God works in our lives. A realization of **His life active and present in us** is itself a gift.

I regularly see God at work during the ordinary experiences of my priestly ministry. Especially during Lent, on First Fridays and First Saturdays, and on many other occasions during the year, I have witnessed God bring forgiveness and healing to repentant sinners who were contrite and seeking God's mercy in the *Sacrament of Penance*. Christ was *present to them*. Whenever I go to the hospital or do a home visitation to offer the *Anointing of the Sick* to someone who is sick or dying, Christ is again present there bringing spiritual comfort, healing and forgiveness. When I go into the chapel and witness numerous parishioners spending time adoring Christ in the Blessed Sacrament after daily Mass, indeed believing in *His true Eucharistic Presence*, I see Christ with His people. I could go on and on with such examples.

If you look around, Christ continues to be present and to work among His people. He is true to His promise: . . . "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt. 28:20) He was there at the wedding I witnessed last week. He is at each Mass that I celebrate, whether publicly or in private. He is here as I pray with or for someone who asks for my prayers. He will be here during Sunday's baptism. He is even there each time I have to face suffering and death.

People will sometimes tell me that they don't believe in God or that He doesn't seem real to them. *Why does God's presence seem so real and obvious to me?* It's not that I am some mystic or spiritual guru. I am just an ordinary person, an unworthy sinner like the rest of humanity called by God and graced with the gift of ordination *despite my own unworthiness*.

As you continue your spiritual journey during this Easter season, why not make a conscious effort to look for and to be attentive to *God's Grace* working in your life and in the lives of those around you? He is here with us in the poor, the suffering, the dying, the lonely, the young child, and the elderly. He is present in obvious ways and when we least expect it. He is present in the big events of life and in those quiet moments speaking to the depths of our hearts when we are alone in our inner room.

If you have a hard time perceiving Him, ask Him directly to remove any spiritual blindness from which you appear to be suffering. Fidelity to **daily prayer** is so essential in forming a relationship with Christ. A thorough *sacramental confession* can be the quickest and most direct way to experience His presence as healing, forgiveness and mercy enter into your life. And, of course, be aware that Christ is *really and truly present* (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity) in the Holy Eucharist as the priest offers the Mass.

He is here with us—*all around us!*

Don't miss Him.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 21, 2024

Ministry Schedule April 27/28

	Clergy	Music	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Florence	R. Javier	J. Cepeda	
8:30 AM	Fr. Coronado	Julie	B. Massey	D. Mayfield	A. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta/ Choir Julie	J. Flynn	L. Flynn	N. & M. Flynn



The Good Shepherd offers His life for His Sheep

The beautiful image of the shepherd with the sheep makes us recall at once the strong, loving and faithful relationship that he has with each one of his sheep, like a real treasure for him. The Lord Jesus, too, cares for each one of us, for our life, for our growth. We are really precious in His eyes! We belong to him! Like the shepherd does with his sheep, when he calls them by name, they, recognizing his voice, follow him. We, too, are called to listen to our Good Shepherd when He calls us by our unique name, to recognize his special voice and... to joyfully follow Him.



This week, it would be very helpful for our growth in Jesus, to recall some moments in our life in which we felt His call, His Presence or

a kind of interior assuring Voice within us that gave us new strength, new life and a new Joy. Psalm 23 might help us to renew this special encounter with the Lord, for our joy and the joy of many the others too!!! Happy encounter!

REMINDERS:

April 28: Catechist Creativity Day

May 2: First Communion Rehearsal, from 4:30-5:30 PM

May 5: First Communion during Sunday Mass, at 11:00

May 5: Last Session for all with Mary Crowning

Banns of Ordination to the Diaconate

The Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan, D.D. announces that he intends to **ordain Mr. Timothy Stephen Mulranen and Mr. Thomas Kristopher Piro to the Sacred Order of Deacon on Saturday, the 11th day of May, 2024 at Saint Joseph Church, 126 44th Street, Sea Isle, New Jersey.**

The faithful of the Diocese of Camden are asked to pray for these men and for the young men of their parish who are being called by God to service in the Church. At the same time the faithful are obliged to reveal impediments to sacred orders, if they know of any, by contacting their pastor before the ordination in accord with the norms of cc. 1043 and 1051.2 of the Code of Canon Law.

Mary Immaculate, patroness of the Diocese of Camden, intercede for these men and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood here in South Jersey.

Viewing of the Film “The Letter”

On Monday April 22nd at 6:45PM in the Parish Meeting Room the Faith & Justice Team is showing the film “The Letter” which explores Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical Laudato Si’ This film is an address to all of humanity of the threatening impact our current lifestyle poses for our planet and all those living in it. **Mark your calendar to attend!!**

APRIL IS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Vitality Catholic Healthcare Services and families of children with ASD or IDD gather to celebrate our **Annual Mass of Welcome & Inclusion, 10:30 AM Sunday, April 28, 2024 at St. Frances Cabrini Church, Ocean City, NJ.** Contact jkelly@sstdamienparish.com or call: 609-399-0648.

Weekly Intentions

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

4:30 PM Elizabeth Davish Betson
r/b Chris Betson-Smith

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 AM Luigi Iannuzzi
11:00 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson
r/b Rick & Elaine Beckman

MONDAY, APRIL 22

9:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

9:00 AM Intentions of Sr. Grazia Maria Ragnoli
r/b Franciscan Sisters
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 AM Nick Menna r/b Dee Soderstrom
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of Morgan family in Ireland
9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

9:00 AM Emelia Marchesani r/b Vince
9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

4:30 PM Intentions of St. Thomas More Parishioners
r/b Carlos & Daisy Santiago

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

8:30 AM Raul Gerardo Martinez Calle
r/b Vascisin family
11:00 AM Nick Menna Rick & Elaine Beckman



Please pray for the repose of the souls of :
Elva Clark
Vince Menna
(Marianne Wilkins' brother)

St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry meeting: 1:00 PM April 25th, 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**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN

YOUR PRAYERS: THE

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Joe Centonze, Grace Cobin, 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, Kelly Moore, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, Dom Saccia, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Grace Sklencar, Joe Sklencar, Claire Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ed Targonski, Sr., Roy Targonski, Ann Vigrass, Joanne Wachman, Sarah Warner.

James 5:13-20
Pray for the Sick



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.**



An invitation to men of the parish from the Cherry Hill Council 6173 Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus has been a



brotherhood of Catholic men devoted to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The Cherry Hill Council is devoted to this work locally: helping the mentally challenged, funding local pro-life centers, aiding our seminarians, and supporting the parishes of St. Mary, St. Thomas More, and Christ our Light. **If you want more information or to join us, you can do so today at www.kofc.org/joinus o with this QR code include "Council 6173" when asked and use the promo code: BLESSEDDMCGIVNEY to join for free.**

Eucharistic Revival quotes from
Pope Francis

“Jesus takes the bread into His hands and says ‘Take, this is my body.’ (Mark 14:22) With this gesture and these words He assigns to the bread a function which is no longer simply that of physical nutrition, but that of making his Person present in the midst of the community of believers.”

Angelus—June 7, 2015



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 21, 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 Fifth Sunday of Easter, April 28, 2024 - John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower... Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit because without me you can do nothing."

Commentary:

The demands of being Christ's disciples are evident: we are told five times that we must "bear fruit." There is only one way to do this: by a relationship with Jesus so close and so intimate that we remain in him like a branch on a vine. Only his life in us enables us to bear fruit.

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:

"The pro-life cause is the pre-eminent cause of our time, and this struggle between the gospel of life and the culture of death will determine the destiny of mankind."— [Peter Garrett](#), Member of the Australian House of Representatives

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be at the doors of the church **this weekend** accepting your donations of non-perishable food or money to purchase food.

They are asking for: **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.'*



Strengthening the Church at Home

development of priestly vocations in more than 70 other dioceses in the United States and its territories. The Home Mission Appeal is next weekend.

Strengthening the Church at Home

When you participate in the Annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal you make possible the



Economic Justice—Some Facts

All economic life should be shaped by moral principles. Economic choices and institutions must be judged by how they protect or undermine the life and dignity of the human person, support the family and serve the common good. A fundamental moral measure of any economy is how the poor and vulnerable are faring. The economy exists for the person not for the economy.—[Principles of Catholic Social Teaching](#)

There are now 2 times as many billionaires as there were at the time of the financial crisis in 2008. [Oxfam](#) A new billionaire is created every 2 days and they are paying lower tax rates than they have been in decades. Meanwhile 10,000 people die each day because they can't afford healthcare. [Oxfam](#) Getting the richest 1% to pay just 0.5% extra tax on their wealth could raise more money than is needed to educate all 262 million children out of school & provide healthcare to save the lives of 3.3 million people. [Oxfam](#)



**SJCM A 2024 APPEAL:
"THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM"**
****St. Thomas More's Goal is \$89,700. We will need the help of every parishioner to meet this goal. Thank you for prayerfully considering your donation. ****

To date we have received gifts from 60 people totaling 29,425. 00 which is 32.8% of our goal.

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