

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



Find us on:
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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

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 856-424-3212
Sr. Ann Byrnes
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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 28, 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



Jesus our vine,
We gather in your name to grow
in understanding and loving your Word.
Help us bear fruit in your name.
Prune and remove sin and clutter from our lives.
Guide us like St. Paul to boldly proclaim our faith in
You.
Amen



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 21 was \$4429.00
The budgeted amount was \$8500.

"Giving... is an act of praise and worship of our God (Sir. 35:4). It is an expression of gratitude for all the blessings God gives to us." Stewardship is Discipleship



"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: 5th Sunday of Easter Steward Goodness

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." - 1 JOHN 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you "walk the talk"? Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good Steward? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? **Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!**

From the Pastor's Desk
Latest Parish News and Information

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we say goodbye to **Sr. Ann Byrnes**, RSM who has been a part of **St. Thomas More Parish** for about 15 years. Sister Ann decided to retire this year after heading our *Lifelong Faith Formation* program and our *Faith and Justice Team*.

Sister Ann's various duties included preparing candidates in the **O.C.I.A.** (*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*) program, and helping to train the altar servers, lectors, and *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*. She would assist during the weekend Masses to make sure that everyone was present and the liturgies ran smoothly. Sister assisted me when it was time for rehearsal during the Holy Week liturgies.

Sister was responsible for many of the seasonal programs in our parish. Most notable, she would promote, organize and facilitate our *Small Christian Communities* (S.C.C.) during Advent and Lent. At Christmas, she organized and promoted our *Lessons and Carols*. She was responsible for getting the speakers for our Sacred Scripture seminars and many of our parish missions. She regularly informed me of those she was aware of who were sick or dying. She helped with funeral preparations. Among the many other tasks, I think her personal favorite was leading the *Faith and Justice* team.

I know that there are many, many things that she has done behind the scenes, well before I ever arrived at this parish. I personally and publicly thank her for the many contributions she has made to this parish on behalf of all of us! *Sister Ann, we wish you well in your retirement. You have our prayers and best wishes for the future!*

Please realize that we are looking for a replacement for Sister to fill the future position of **Coordinator of Catechesis, Lifelong Faith Formation and Evangelization**. As I had mentioned several months ago, St. Thomas More Parish has begun the application process to seek a committed, active Catholic to serve in this position. This person 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 catechesis, 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 still wishing 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 needs to be made in the next month or so.

Finally, I take a moment to thank everyone who has been so kind and thoughtful to me during the loss of my dear mother. I have no idea how I could ever thank everyone enough for the Masses, cards, flowers, donations and personal expressions of sympathy to me and my family. On behalf of my brothers, sister and entire family, thank you from the bottom of my heart! It means so much to all of us. Be assured of a remembrance in my thoughts, prayers and Masses!

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 28, 2024

Ministry Schedule May 4/5

	Clergy	Music	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	Sr. Agnes	K. McFadden	T. Johnson
8:30 AM	Fr. Coronado	Music Ministry	K. Witts	K. Kraemer	D. & C. Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	J. Galati	L. Galati	L. Vascisin S. Andino M. Marsden



REMAIN IN ME AS I REMAIN IN YOU

*"I am the vine,
you are the branches; the one
who remains in Me, and I in
him bears much fruit..." (John
15:5)*



The risen Jesus constantly invites us to remain in His love, to remain in friendly relationship with Him. In this way, we will not be afraid of the "pruning" of the Father. He eliminates what is old in us to continue to nourish us in order to give birth to a new life in us, His beautiful loving life to be joyfully shared with others!

*"As the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you.
Remain in My love". (John 15:9)*

Jesus always communicates to His disciples the power and the strength of His Love, the Spirit of Love of the Father that is in Him. Do I desire to be united to the vine, to remain in His love? It is up to me to decide, to answer to Jesus' invitation.

The Virgin Mary was always in communion with her Son Jesus. She can teach us how to remain in Him, as the branches are united to the vine and ever to separate from His love to bear the fruits of generous self-giving to others as she did.

Reminders:

April 28: Catechists Creativity Day

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

May 5: First Communion at the 11:00AM Mass

MOTHER'S DAY CARDS & REMEMBRANCES

During the month of May the parish will remember all the mothers and grandmothers, living and deceased, of our parishioners. If you would like your mother or grandmother remembered in this special manner, please return a Mother's Day envelope with donation and name(s) listed sent along with your weekly collection envelopes. *Mother's Day cards are also available at the exit doors.*

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.

Banns of Ordination to the Priesthood

The Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan, D.D. announces that he intends to **ordain Reverend Mister Ricardo Lozano Cruz to the Sacred Order of Presbyter on Saturday, the 18th day of May, 2024 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 642 Market Street, Camden, 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 28, 2024

Weekly Intentions



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 r/b Rick & Elaine Beckman

MONDAY, APRIL 29

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

9:00 AM Jose M. Padolina, IV
r/b Joselisa Padolina
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

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

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY MAY 2

9:00 AM Vincent E. Tyrrell r/b family
9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

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

SATURDAY, MAY 4

9:00 AM Special Intentions
4:30 PM Jane Catron r/b Tobin family

SUNDAY, MAY 5

8:30 AM Corazon Alabanzas r/b /Dolly Rochoa
11:00 AM Jennifer Sullivan r/b Donna & Brad Stainrook

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions April 2024 For The Role Of Women

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

**May 4th, 2024 Retreat Day
for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 17-33)
One Step with the Virgin Mary
10:00 AM –2:00 PM**

Mother Mary Joseph Center for Hospitality
1215 Kresson Road
For more information: 856-428-8834 or
fmijcomeandsee@yahoo.com

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 Sacca, 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.



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 or 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

"It is noteworthy how close the link is between the Eucharistic bread, nourishment for eternal life, and daily bread, necessary for earthly life. Before offering Himself to the Father as the Bread of salvation, Jesus ensures there is food for those who follow Him and who, in order to be with Him, forgot to make provisions." (Angelus Aug. 2, 2020)



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 28, 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 Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 5, 2024- John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you... It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you... This I command you: love one another."

Commentary:

God's love for us is both free and costly! It is free in that God first loved and chose us; it is costly in that being loved requires us to "love one another as Christ has loved" us and to "lay down our life" for others.

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 medical profession has a special responsibility to protect and preserve human life from the moment of conception. This responsibility arises not only from our scientific knowledge but also from our commitment to the sanctity of life."— [Dr. John C. Willke](#), physician, author, and anti-abortion activist



Chinese Small Christian Community gathers for sharing and dinner with Sister Ann celebrating her retirement at the end of April.



Strengthening the Church at Home
When you participate in the **Annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal** you make possible the

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



A Prayer to End Gun Violence

We pray that all people will realize the profound impact gun violence has. Help us to be peaceful and diplomatic in times of trouble. Guide us towards peace, and away from violence. Help us to avoid partaking in any evil or illegal acts.

Allow us to solve all of our problems in a constructive way rather than resort to destruction. Let us also pray for the countless victims of gun violence. Help them to feel comforted in a world that seems like it is full of evil.

Lastly, let us pray for our governments, world leaders, and authority figures. Let them do all they reasonably can to prevent more violent acts. Inspire them to do all they can in an effort to reduce gun violence. Lord, teach us to value all life. Let us abandon all of our violent ways, and become advocates for peace.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the great teacher.
Amen.



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 66 people totaling 29,925. 00 which is 33.4% of our goal.

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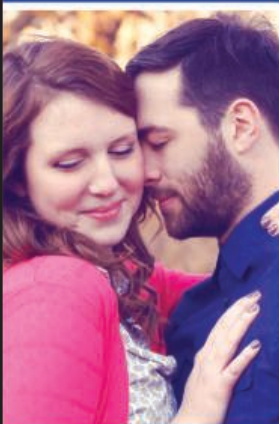
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