

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: info@stthomasmorenj.org

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
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
Sheila Tartamosa, Business Manager



Find us on:
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Send all bulletin announcements to:

smtartamosa@comcast.net by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

Parish Trustees

Jeannine Mc Menamin
Henry Glover

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement

Staff 856- 424-3212

Consolation Ministry

Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454

Jon Lisitski jonl11@comcast.net

Faith & Justice Team

Chris Baeckstrom 856-912-7078

Hospital Visitors

Staff & Euch. Ministers 856-424-3212

Intercessory Prayer

Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217

Knights of Columbus

John Galati 856-424-3212

Marriage Formation

Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 856-795-1160

Order of Christian Init. Of Adults

Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. 856-424-3212

Respect Life

Staff

Rosary Ministry

Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053

Small Christian Communities

Spiritual Retreats

John Galati 856-428-7073

St. Vincent de Paul

Chico Febus 856- 424-3212

Stewardship

Sheila Tartamosa 856-424-3212

Welcoming Team

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

Committee

Committee

856-424-3212

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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 22, 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.



Bishop Williams Deanery Welcome Event

To connect with the faithful throughout the diocese, Bishop Joseph A. Williams will host deanery Masses and receptions on Wednesdays during September and October.

Our Deanery will be on **October 9**: Deanery 2, Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, Gibbsboro.

The deanery event will begin with Mass at 6:30 PM, followed by a dessert reception at 7:30 PM, where Bishop Williams will meet and greet those in attendance.

All faithful are encouraged to attend these special gatherings. Mark your calendar.

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 424-3212

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



The collection for Sunday, September 15, 2024

Sunday	\$4754.00
E-Giving	\$1767.00
Total	\$6521.00

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost. — Ignatius of Loyola graciousquotes.com

SECURITY GRANT UPDATE

St. Thomas More Parish was awarded a New Jersey Non—Profit Security Grant in 2023. At this point we have completed the installation of an Audio Visual intercom for the Office, Intrusion Alarm System for the whole building, Motion Sensors, Vision and Camera System throughout the grounds and access control on some doors.. We will be installing extra exterior lights around the buildings in the near future.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship Servants

“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” MARK 9:35

Jesus teaches us that we as Christian Stewards are called to love one another. Love involves sacrifice. Sacrifice is a word that many of us don't like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is “to make holy,” from the words “sacer” = sacred and “facere” = to make. In other words, when we sacrifice, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God.

From the Pastor's Desk

The Monastic Retreat

Dear Parishioners,

As you read this, I am preparing to leave for a Trappist monastery—the **Abbey of the Genesee** in Piffard, NY—making my annual, canonical retreat. Please be kind to Fr. Norris, Fr. Perreault and Fr. Coronado (my *bullpen*) while I am away.

The retreat I choose to be on is mostly silent. I speak with others briefly when necessary. The first prayers of the day (Vigils) currently begin at 3:30 AM. The day ends with Compline (night prayer) at 7:30 PM. The monks chant the psalms each day and rise early to keep watch and to wait for the Lord's return. The monks work and pray (*Ora et Labora*) all day long. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the central point of the daily routine. The schedule is relatively the same every time I am here.

While I miss the daily routine and people of the parish, I realize the importance of making a good retreat. Priests need to be men of prayer and to follow the example of Jesus who frequently distanced himself from the crowds to find time for intimate communication with His Father in prayer. Jesus went into the desert, up the mountain and to the seashore to pray frequently. He would spend entire nights in prayer.

What exactly will happen to me during this week? I am never really sure. I am simply called to *listen* for the Lord as He speaks, when he speaks. It is ironic that the *quieter* the atmosphere, the *louder* the Lord seems to speak to the heart. There is definitely time to read, to pray, to think, to meditate, to rest and to listen. Sometimes I am inspired to write or compose.

From a worldly perspective, people may not see value in what I am doing. However, those who experience the *touch of the Lord* in their lives usually hunger for more . . . and more . . . and more. At least I do. Being busy all of the time may seem productive, but life without prayer and intimacy with God frequently becomes shallow or even empty in so many ways. Prayer puts things in perspective and refreshes, often inspiring and motivating a person to cooperate more fully with God's will.

You will be remembered in my prayers and Masses during the week. As you come to mind each day, I will ask the Lord to be gracious to you and to bless you. He certainly knows best what each of us needs the most in our lives.

Please pray for me as I once again *journey into the desert*. That is how a monastic retreat is often described—like going into the **desert**. However, don't forget that when Christ went out into the desert, He encountered various temptations from Satan. Spiritual warfare continues. Your prayers are much needed and certainly appreciated during this time

When I return back to the parish, I hope to be able to share with you some insights, thoughts and experiences that were the fruit of this monastic endeavor. I never quite know the outcome. All I can do is watch and wait like the monks, seeking Jesus with my whole heart.

Fr. Ed Namiootka, Pastor

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 22, 20

Ministry Schedule September 28/29

	Clergy	Music	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Coronado	Len	E. Beckman	K. McFadden	
8:30 AM	Fr. Perreault	Celine/Julie	K. Witts	K. Kraemer	Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Perreault	Celine/Choir/Julie	J. De Michele	J. Johnson	L. Vascisin J. Hayden



Religious Education Classes will begin on Sept. 22, 2024 from 9:30 AM through 10:45 AM. Students can attend Mass on Sat. 4:30 PM, Sun. 8:30 or 11:00 AM. (Before class or after class). Any Families new to the area that need to register, please call the parish office at 856-424-3212.

It was great being together at the Catechetical Sunday Mass and meeting last week. Thank you to everyone who participated. We look forward to a productive school year.

We **appreciate and pray** for our devoted Catechists and assistants. We thank them for their gift of ministry. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word.

Special thanks to Lorraine, Marianne and Greg for their efforts preparing the refreshments and hall set up/clean up.



The St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry to the bereaved will be having a luncheon gathering on Thursday, September 26, 1 pm, at Siena's Italian Creative Cuisine located at 300 White Horse Rd, Voorhees, NJ 08043-2500.

Please contact one of the ministry members mentioned below if you wish to attend.

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.

AnnMarie Lento 856-344-7454,

Jon Lisitski 856-210-6466

Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053



DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday, November 3, 2024

3:00 PM Church of the

Holy Family Sewell, NJ

For Milestone Wedding Anniversary couples celebrating **25, 50, 60, 70** or more years in the year 2024.

Light Reception will follow in the Aquin Parish Hall.

REGISTRATION is required.

Call the Parish Office 856-424-3212 to register

DEADLINE to register is October 18, 2024

GOOD COUNSEL Homes would like to thank St. Thomas More parishioners for their generous donation of \$735.00 to help support their various programs and initiatives to continue their mission helping those in need.

Hope for Babies + Mothers

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 22, 20024

MASS Intentions

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

4:30 PM Catherine Namiotka
r/b Blaise & Jeanne Cona

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:30 AM Catherine Namiotka
r/b Joanne Wachman

11:00 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson r/b family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:00 AM Catherine Namiotka r/b Pat Byrnes
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 AM Intention of Janet Johnson & family
9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9:00 AM John & Mid Ulrich r/b Pat Byrnes
9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

4:30 PM Luis Dalusong
r/b Swartz Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:30 AM Sr. Armide Fabela r/b Carmona family
11:00 AM Fr. Phillip Johnson r/b family

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For SEPTEMBER For The Cry Of The Earth

Let us pray that each of us listens with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.



The Flowers on the Altar this week are in memory of Father Phillip Johnson requested by his family.

May he rest in peace.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: *THE*

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Joe Centonze, Grace Cobin, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Linda Di Giulio, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Kelly Moore, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Grace Sklencar, Joe Sklencar, Claire Spence, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ed Targonski, Sr., Ann Vigrass, Joanne Wachman, Sarah Warner, Baby Finley. Tom and Arlene Pajic.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED

SERVICES... Sgt. Jordan Beckman, Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Major Anthony R. Cosentino, USAF, TSgt. John P. DeYoung, Sam Houston, USN Special Forces, 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, Sgt. Nicole Williams, and *all those serving our country.*

An invitation to men of the parish from the Cherry Hill Council 6173 Knights of Columbus: If you want more information or to join us, you can do so today at www.kofc.org/joinus 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

"We must always bear in mind that the Eucharist is not something we make; it [is] not our own commemoration of what Jesus said and did. No, it is precisely an act of Christ! It is Christ who acts there, who is on the altar. It is a gift of Christ, who makes himself present and gathers us around him. To nourish us with his Word and with his life. This means that the mission and the very identity of the Church flows from there, from the Eucharist, and there always takes shape."
General Audience—February 12, 2014

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 22, 20

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 Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 29, 2024 – Mark 9:38-48

Jesus said, "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire."

Commentary:

Perhaps we have known someone whose illness made it necessary to have a diseased part of his or her body removed in order to preserve life. Self-preservation is a strong instinct. Sometimes extraordinary efforts are made to preserve physical life. How strong is our drive to sustain our spiritual life? Can we describe our efforts as extraordinary? For most of us, it would only take a small bit of introspection to identify something in our life that needs to go—something we need to cut away.

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: "Abortion is a profoundly immoral and unjust act: the taking of an innocent human life at its most defenseless. As Christians committed to justice and righteousness, we cannot stand by and just let that happen."— **Dr. James Anderson**, Author



St. Thomas More Parish is Supporting Joseph's House

You can help - Walk or Run or Donate!

This is the 5th Annual Joseph's House of Camden Event to End Homelessness on October 5, 9 am at Cooper River Park, Pennsauken, NJ.

Register [Online](#) and sign up as part of the St. Thomas More Team walking 1 mile.

Or donate after Mass - September 28/29

Diocese of Camden Marian Pilgrimage Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC Saturday, October 26, 2024

7:00/7:15 AM	Bus Departs	Holy Eucharist Parking Lot 344 Kresson Road, Cherry Hill
9:30—11:30 AM		Arrive at the Basilica,. Confession, Explore the Shrine, Prayer time
11:00 AM		Official Welcome. Concert of Sacred Music
Noon		Lunch on your own . Suggest bring lunch as cafeteria is very busy.
1:30 PM		Procession of Parishes with Banner. Rosary and Crowning of the BVM.
3:00 PM		Mass with Bishop Sullivan in the Great Upper Church. Departure following Mass
7:30 PM		Bus arrives at Holy Eucharist parking lot

Cost per person \$35.00 Space is limited

Call Sheila at the Parish Office to register. 856-424-3212

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