

St. Thomas More Church

1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003

856-424-3212

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 856-424-2053

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 29, 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.

OCIA

The Order 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 call 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



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.

The collection for Sunday, September 22, 2024

Sunday	\$5197.00
E-Giving	\$1627.00
Total	\$6824.00

“It is not what I do that matters, but what a sovereign God chooses to do through me. God does not want worldly **successes**, He wants me. He wants my heart in **submission** to Him. Life is not just a few years to spend on self indulgence and advancement. It is a privilege, a responsibility, a stewardship to be lived according to a much higher calling, God’s calling. This alone gives true meaning to life.” *Elizabeth Dole*

Next weekend, October 5/6 there will be a special Diocesan collection for **Pro-Life** causes.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Stewardship Corner: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewards-One Body

“Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.” MARK 9:41

We as Christian Stewards are made in God’s image and likeness. We tend to forget this. When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them? When others look at you, do they see the face of Jesus in you? When we realize that all lives matter to God, then gratitude and generously become easier. Why? Because that’s the way we are made! We are one Body of Christ; when one of us is hurting, all of us feel the pain.

From the Pastor's Desk
IVF and Other Moral Concerns

Dear Parishioners,

Decades ago when I was a college seminarian, I had to present a research paper on the topic of *In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)* for my ethics class. What was frequently referred to at the time as "test tube babies," *IVF* technology was being proposed as a means of fertilization for those couples who were unable to conceive a child by natural means. With the desired end-result of having a baby, isn't this a good option for such couples? The moral answer may surprise many people.

When the male sperm and female ovum join together *scientifically* we have a new human being. Life begins at conception regardless of those who try to deny this fact. It is also our belief as Catholics that God infuses an immortal soul into the newly conceived person, hence destining him or her to live eternally. We are created to live forever.

In the case of *IVF*, multiple eggs are typically fertilized hoping that one of these will implant in the woman's uterus and eventually develop into a child. However, if all the eggs are fertilized *in the lab*, we then have multiple human persons being formed with an almost certain probability that not every one of them will be brought to term. Thus, innocent human lives are created, then eventually destroyed.

The *IVF* procedure also overlooks the morality of the means by which the sperm are usually obtained in a solitary manner (masturbation) outside of the conjugal act. Moreover, the implications of taking human conception and separating it from the conjugal act opens the door to such things as surrogate parenting, the harvesting of organs from deliberately created babies, intentional sex and genetic selection and other possibilities.

I also should bring to people's attention that various types of contraceptive pills and other means (e.g., the I.U.D.) have an *abortifacient* quality preventing a conceived embryo (a new person) from implanting in the womb of the mother. In essence, it is a microscopic abortion that takes place. If a human person is such at conception, then anything that destroys or deliberately prevents this baby from living has serious moral implications. This is true as well for the abortion pill, sometimes referred to as the "morning after pill."

You might witness as I do, sexual morality is something that has become relative and utterly subjective to many in society. However, I state clearly that just because something is technologically or scientifically possible, it is not necessarily morally correct. Science may remove genitals from a person and supply hormones, but does that make the person another gender in the eyes of God? I think not. Abortion may be termed *health care* or *reproductive rights*, yet does not a person once conceived have a God-given right to live? While a baby may arrive as a result of *IVF*, what about the lives of the other children conceived in the process? Don't they matter?

As Catholics, all of these topics are important morally and spiritually. Human beings are sacred to God as He became one of us in the Person of Jesus. Every person, born or preborn, has the potential to be with God for all eternity and should be treated with dignity and respect. From a human perspective, once we begin to behave and act like we are *gods*, like we have control over life, sexual identity, who can marry whom, etc., we are opening ourselves to disastrous consequences for humanity.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Ministry Schedule September October 5/6

	Clergy	Music	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Father	Music Ministry	Sr. Agnes	J. Cepeda	
8:30 AM	Father	Music Ministry	K. Witts	S. Oatway	D. & A. Witts
11:00 AM	Father	Music Ministry	J. Galati	L. Galati	S. Andino, M. Marsden



God speaks to us in many ways, including through the Sunday Scripture readings. **The Sunday Connection, by Loyola Press**, provides useful background and activities to better understand the Sunday's Scripture readings, **helping you to connect the Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Jesus teaches that whoever is not against him is for him.

Family Connection

The second part of today's Gospel contains a strong message for those who share the responsibility of fostering faith. **Today's Gospel reminds us that faith is a lifelong journey toward God.** We pray for the grace to acknowledge and build upon even the smallest signs of faith, in ourselves and in others.

As you gather as a family, observe and talk about the things in our lives that nurture our faith and things that can hinder it.

Read together today's Gospel, Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48. Conclude by praying together that we will be a family that helps each other grow in faith. Pray together with today's psalm, Psalm 19, or the **Lord's Prayer**.

We look forward to walking this journey of faith with you, and we need and appreciate your prayerful support!



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



*When you strengthen the Man
you strengthen the family.*

Men's Spirituality Conference
Sat., Nov. 9, 2024 7 am—3:30 pm

PAUL VI Conference Center
901 Hopkins Rd, Haddonfield, NJ

Nationally renowned Catholic speakers, Faith based exhibitors, Eucharistic Adoration, Time for Spiritual Reflection, Confession, Music, Breakfast and Lunch.

For more information and to order tickets visit **MANUPSOUTHJERSEY.COM**

The **Mission of ManUp South Jersey** is to provide men with spiritual opportunities that will lead them to encounter Christ in a special way. So touched by the encounter, they will seek to learn their faith, live their faith, embrace masculine Catholic virtues, and become better husbands, fathers, sons, employees.... better men. And through the example of their lives, they will become missionary disciples who lead others to the joy of a Christ-centered life.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Weekly Intentions



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 family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

9:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:00 AM Catherine Namiotka
r/b Mascibroda family

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 AM Catherine Namiotka r/b Carmona Family

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY OCTOBER 3

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

9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00 AM Intentions of Wendy Gaff
r/b Pat Luchtman

9:30-Noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:00 AM Catherine Namiotka r/b Tom Keeley

4:30 PM Intentions of Robert Tyrrell
r/b family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:30 AM James Richardson
r/b Tomas & Marie Manalo

11:00 AM Jeffrey Ford r/b Bill & Ann Vigrass

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For October For A Shared Mission

Let us pray that the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, communion and mission shared by priests, religious and laity.

Please keep in your prayers those who have died recently and their families.

William J. Kelly
Edward W. Zirpoli
Tom Pajic

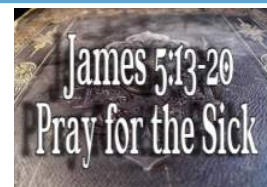
Edith Christophe, sister of Esther

May they 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,
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

"Let us break the bread of our lives in compassion and solidarity, so that through us the world may see the grandeur of God's love. Then the Lord will come, he will surprise us once more, he will again become food for the life of the world. And he will satisfy us always, until the day when, at the heavenly banquet, we will contemplate his face and come to know the joy that has no end." Homily-June 6, 2021

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 29, 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 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 6, 20124– Mark 10:2-16

“From the beginning of creation, God made male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate.”

Commentary:

In Mark's Gospel Jesus goes beyond the Law of Moses (where Moses allowed divorce because of “the hardness of your hearts”) and back to God's command. Jesus teaches the clear ideal of Genesis 2 which is quoted in the Gospel. The Hebrews saw a human person as body, soul and spirit—all together. You are your body. So, when a man and woman “become one body,” they are like one person. There is no domination of man over woman here. Man and woman complement each other, complete each other.

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: “I tried to get my mind around the arguments from the so-called ‘pro-choice’ position. Most of them could seem very defensible from the surface. But when you dig just a little below the surface, you see how ridiculous these claims become.

Taking a person's life is not ‘health care.’”– **Randy Smith**, Pastor, and Founder of Christian Travel Study Programs

Diocese of Camden

White Mass

October 13, 2024 at 10 AM

The Chapel at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes

Haddon Ave., Camden

Reception immediately following the Mass

***Honoring Doctors, Nurses & All Health
Care Professionals***



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.
Representatives will be at the doors of the Church to assist you.

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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