

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



Father Edward Namiotka, Pastor
Father Victorino Coronado, In Residence
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
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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smtartamosa@comcast.net by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Parish Trustees | Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover | <i>Worship</i> Altar Servers Church Environment Ch. Art Environment Eucharistic Ministers Lectors Linen Committee Sacrists | Committee Committee | 856-424-3212 |
| <i>Christian Life/Education</i> | | | | |
| Bereavement | Staff 856- 424-3212 | | | |
| Consolation Ministry | Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454 Jon Lisitski jonll1@comcast.net | | | |
| Faith & Justice Team | Chris Baeckstrom 856-912-7078 | <i>Ushers</i> | Ann Vigrass Greta Tyrrell | 856-428-7217 856-428-2412 |
| Hospital Visitors | Staff & Euch. Ministers 856-424-3212 | <i>Social Development</i> | Dom Sacca Dave Bongiovanni | |
| Intercessory Prayer | Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217 | Bridge Groups | Joe Centonze Chico Febus | |
| Knights of Columbus | John Galati 856-424-3212 | Parish Festival | Joyce DeMichele Barbara Cerquitella | 856-424-4008 856-795-7323 |
| Marriage Formation | Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 856-795-1160 | Women's Club | Committee Barbara Cerquitella | 856-424-3212 856-795-7323 |
| Order of Christian Init. Of Adults | | | Lorraine Kennedy | 856-489-0031 |
| Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. | 856-424-3212 | <i>Administration</i> | | |
| Respect Life | Staff | House of Charity | Sheila Tartamosa | 856-424-3212 |
| Rosary Ministry | Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053 | Parish Finance Council | Robert Crawford | 856-424-3212 |
| Small Christian Communities | | Parish Pastoral Council | Marie Enny | 856-751-8893 |
| 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 | | | |

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 generosity 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

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 |

Religious Education

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.

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.

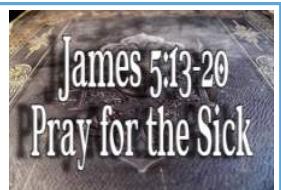


PLEASE REMEMBER IN

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 Saccia, 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

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. |
| 7:30 PM | | Departure following Mass |
| | | 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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