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

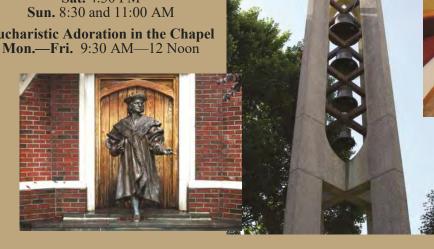
Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM in

the Chapel

First Saturdays: 9:00 ÅM in the Chapel

Sat. 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel





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



Send all bulletin announcements to: smtartamosa@comcast.net by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover		Worship Altar Servers Church Environment	Committee	
Christian Life/Education			Ch. Art Environment	Committee	
Bereavement	Staff	856- 424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers		856-424-3212
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	856- 344-7454	Lectors	A \$7°	056 400 7017
	3	l@comcast.net	Linen Committee Sacristans	Ann Vigrass Greta Tyrrell	856-428-7217 856-428-2412
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	856-912-7078	Sacristaris	Dom Sacca	030-420-2412
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	856-424-3212		Dave Bongiovanni	
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217		Joe Centonze	
Knights of Columbus	John Galati	856-424-3212	Ushers	Chico Febus	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	856-795-1160	Social Development Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	856-424-4008
Order of Christian Init. Of Adults			Briage Groups	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.		856-424-3212	Parish Festival	Committee	856-424-3212
Respect Life	Staff		Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	856-424-2053		Lorraine Kennedy	856-489-0031
Small Christian Communitie	es		Administration		
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	856-428-7073	House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212
St. Vincent de Paul	Chico Febus	856-424-3212	Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	856-424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212	Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	856-751-8893
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



Lord Jesus, if our hearts did not welcome and know you, Where would we be? What would we be like? What would we become? What would we be seeking, pursuing, hungering for? What would we hope for? You came as Light into the darkness of the world, a light that the darkness has not overcome. Amen



The Collection for March 30, 2025

Sunday \$5851.00 E-Giving \$1906.50 Total \$7757.50

This weekend the second collection will be for **RICE BOWL**. Your donation helps fight poverty around the world and in our own community. Thank you for changing lives each Lent!



St. Vincent de Paul representatives will be at the doors of the Church next weekend (April 12/13) to accept your generous donations for those in need.

They will also sponsor coffee and donut hospitality after the Sunday Masses next weekend.

Here's how to take part in **40 Days for Life** in our Community from March 5-April 13



Vigil Location: Outside Cherry Hill Women's Center on Kings Hwy. Vigil Hours can be scheduled from 7 AM-7 PM Tues.-Sat.

Our local Contact is Claire Howson Claire@helpersnj.org 856-313-986

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

5th Sunday of Lent Living Stewardship

"...For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..."(PHILIPPIANS 3:8)

The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts. Living **Stewardship** by sharing our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works, and our treasure to support the Church helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us from becoming a slave to our possessions. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for the glory of ourselves.



From the Pastor's Desk What Are You Giving Up for Lent?

Dear Parishioners,

"What are you giving up for Lent?"

I have been asked this question many times in my life. I think very carefully before I respond. An easy answer would be to say something like *chocolate*, *desserts* or *soda*. Case closed. Many would be satisfied with this response. In my opinion, however, it seems that we need to look beyond this question to something deeper and more profound: *How can I be changed for the better by my observance of Lent?*

The Gospel reading of Ash Wednesday (Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18) reminds us of three traditional practices of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Lent should be a time for increased prayer. When I first began seeking his direction and guidance, my spiritual director at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary asked me to describe for him how I pray. For most people, including me, this is a very personal request. That's between God and me! You are now invading my personal space!

How do I **pray**? (I will reluctantly let you have a glimpse at my inner sanctuary. Please keep this between you and me!)

It depends. Some elements are part of my daily routine. My most important prayer each day is the Mass. I deliberately try to *pray* the Mass. Over time Mass can sometimes become very routine for priests (and laity alike). Priests (and laity) can consciously or unconsciously just go through the motions and simply read the words that are printed in the Roman Missal. To pray the Mass is deliberate and intentional. It involves an act of the will and a conscious effort. It requires concentration.

I also pray my *Liturgy of the Hours*—a series of psalms, Scripture readings, intercessions and formal prayers—intended to sanctify the various hours of the day. Additionally, my personal goal is to include a rosary, some spiritual reading, and time (usually a holy hour) before the Blessed Sacrament each day. At various times in my life I have been drawn to centering prayer (a doorway to contemplation), charismatic prayer, devotional prayer (novenas, Stations of the Cross, rosary, etc.), intercessory prayer, meditation, and to whatever else the Holy Spirit leads me at any given time. Frequently I talk to God from the heart. Prayer is the means by which I hope to seek out God's will, to know Him better and to be united with Him one day. Increasingly, it has become for me a time to be quiet and simply to listen to God. Despite all of the busyness of life, Lent should include time for increased prayer.

Fasting involves some self-denial—food or otherwise. In addition to not eating certain items that we may enjoy, we can "give up" watching TV, frivolous time on the computer, tablet or phone, unnecessary shopping, music in the car, and various other things that not only teach us some discipline and self-sacrifice but may free us up for more time for God and prayer. Two official fast days (from food) during Lent are **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**.

Almsgiving is a reminder for all of us to be charitable—with our money, of course—but also with our talents and with our time. What we do not spend frivolously on shopping, we can give to a personal charity. What we save by eating a simple meal, we can use to send a gift or flowers to an elderly homebound person to let him or her know that he or she is still loved. We can also volunteer our time on behalf of our church, in some civic organization, with a youth group or for some charitable cause. We can use the skills of our profession or trade *pro bono*.

What am I giving up for Lent this year?

This question is much too simplistic. (And you might be sorry that you asked me!)

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

Ministry Schedule March April 12/13 2025

	Clergy Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Coronado	Len	Sr. Sophie	J. Cepeda V C. Betson-Smith L	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Julie	Sr. Clare	J. Johnson V K. Kraemer L	Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta/Choir	M. Garber	B. Haughwout V L. Galati L	L. Vascisin



Spring is the season of Lent and Easter and God's love. Go for a walk and look for God's signs of Spring.

Rice Bowl to be returned to class by April 6, 2025. *Everyone deserves food to eat!*

St. Carlo Acutis Canonization will take place on April 27, 2025 in Rome. Carlo's legacy inspires youth worldwide, showing that sainthood is attainable today. His life offers a blueprint for using technology to spread love and truth. His story inspires generations to seek God's presence and live authentically.

Jesus, help me to show love and care to those who are hurting, just a your friends cared for you.





"Our Journey United in Hope,"

is inspired by the theme of the Jubilee Year, "Pilgrims of Hope."

It reflects our collective commitment to walk on the path together with the hope Christ has provided us.

By supporting the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, you are supporting programs and ministries of the Diocese of Camden. These ministries serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the hungry and challenged.

We are the Church and this is our calling. Since the time of the first apostles, we have been charged with providing care to those who need it, inspired by the sacrificial love our Savior taught us. It is our hope that you will answer that call, as you faithfully do each year, and join together in doing something wonderful.

Thank you to all who already made a gift!

To date we have \$ 29,191.50 (39.3%) of our Goal.



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a recruitment this weekend. Please see one of the Knights at the doors of the Church for information.

You are also invited to Coffee and Donut hospitality after the Sunday Masses.

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, www.kofc.org/joinus with this QR code include "Council 6173" when asked and use the promo code: BLESSEDDMCGIVNEY to join.



In Lent, we are called to renew our baptismal commitment. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and began new in life of Christ.



SATURDAY April 5

4:30 PM Mitzie Fernando, Sandra Roseman, Norayda Wenceslao r/b Swartz Family

SUNDAY April 6

8:30 AM Conrado Mendoza r/b Lily and Gen Delena **11:00 AM** Intentions of Grace Sklencar

MONDAY, April 7

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

TUESDAY, April 8

9:00 AM Celeste Flaquer Robles r/b Rosemarie Colon 9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, April 9

9:00 AM Dec'd Members of the Morgan Family 9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, April 10

9:00 AM Dolly Staton r/b Ron and Gail Bizzoso

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, April 11

9:00 AM Joe Sklencar

r/b Ron and Gail Bizzoso

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, 12

4:30 PM Richard Sweitzer, Sr. r/b Sweitzer Family SUNDAY, March 13

8:30 AM Rev. Phillip Johnson r/b Janet Johnson **11:00 AM William O'Donnell** r/b Ann and Bill Vigrass

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for April For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Spanish Ministry Prayer Group Meeting Dates

Friday: April 11, 2025 meeting will be at the FMSIJ Center for a retreat from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Join us as we Pray the Rosary, Lectio Divina, and reflect on themes of faith.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Joe Centonze, Grace Cobin, Joseph Console, Mary Cowan,



Catherine Diana, Linda Di Giulio, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Marjorie Graham, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Kelly Moore, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Grace Sklencar, Claire Spence, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ed Targonski, Sr., Ann Vigrass, Joanne Wachman, Sarah Warner, Baby Finley, Arlene Pajic, Cecilia Sim, Barbara Cremean, Mark DeYoung, Felician Lopez, Jon Lisitski.



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, PFC Timothy Kenny, US Army and Brendan Marcy, Ens., USCG and *all those serving our country*.

St. Thomas More's volunteer times at the Cherry Hill Food Pantry are:

Tuesday, April 8 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Thursday, April 10 from 10:30 AM-1:00 PM

Volunteers will guide and help our shoppers. We have many elderly and disabled clients who need assistance. Contact Elaine Beckman at 856-428-8431 or email elainevbeckman@gmail.com



Easter Flower donation envelopes are included in your weekly envelope packet or envelopes can be found at the doors of the church. Your Easter Flower offering will be used for altar flowers, for the shut-ins and church decorations. Your envelope can be put in the collection basket, mailed or dropped off at the parish office. Please

indicate, on the envelope if you wish to have your donation made in memory of a loved one. Your generosity will help to enhance our Easter liturgies.

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 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 13, 2025 Luke 22:14-23:56

(The Passion according to Luke)

"After arresting Jesus, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest; Peter was following at a distance. They lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat around it, and Peter sat down with them. When a maid saw Peter seated in the light, she looked intently at him and said, 'This man too was with him.' But he denied it saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A short while later someone else saw Peter and said, 'You too are one of them'; but Peter answered, 'My friend, I am not.' About an hour later, still another insisted, 'Assuredly, this man too was with him, for he also is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.' Just as he was saying this, the cock crowed, and the Lord turned and looked at Peter; and Peter remembered the words of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times. Peter went out and began to weep bitterly."

Commentary:

On the way to Calvary, Jesus continues to call the people to repent, to change their hearts. Jesus continues to reach out and forgive, even from the cross. He forgives Peter and his killers, and offers salvation to the repentant thief. Jesus dies as he lives, the obedient and faithful servant of God. Because of this, Jesus is raised up in the kingdom.

- 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?



Daily Mass is celebrated Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM in the Chapel.

Rite of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard every Saturday from 3:00-4:00 PM **No** confessions Holy Saturday April 19th. Make plans to receive the Sacrament of Penance during Lent.

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. Come join us.

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Chapel Monday through Friday after the 9:00 AM Mass until Noon.



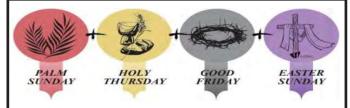


We are still collecting **TREX recyclable** items for a bench for the Retired Priest Residence. *And you can help!*

Take a few minutes to review the items that TREX accepts for recycling.: Bubble wrap (pop bubbles), grocery bags, (all

colors), case overwrap, bread bags, cereal bags, paper towel/toilet paper over-wrap, Ziploc or food storage bags, ice bags (Dry- without metal clips), wood pellet bags, stretch film and pallet wrap, furniture wrap. Check the Flyer on the Faith and Justice table for more detailed information.

Reminder: All plastic must be CLEAN, DRY, AND FREE OF FOOD OR CRUMBS.



Passion (Palm) Sunday Masses

April 13, 2025

Saturday - 4:30 PM Sunday – 8:30 and 11:00 AM

SACRED TRIDUUM Holy Thursday

"Mass of the Lord's Supper" – 7:00 PM Adoration at the Repository in the Chapel until 10 PM

Good Friday

(A day of fast and abstinence)
Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3 PM
Stations of the Cross – 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets – 12 noon

April 19/20 Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday

Masses 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

Catholics are obligated to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

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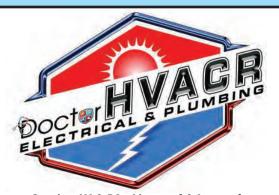
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