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

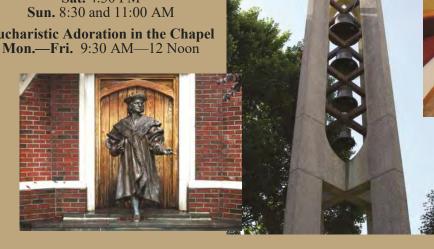
Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM in

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 X7:	057 400 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	Sacristans	Dom Sacca	030 120 2112
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers			Dave Bongiovanni	
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217	77.1	Joe Centonze	
Knights of Columbus	John Galati	856-424-3212	Ushers Social Development	Chico Febus	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	ı 856-795-1160	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 856-489-0031
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	856-424-2053		Lorraine Kennedy	830-489-0031
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Welcoming Team	Shirley Kane	856-424-8022			

PALM SUNDAY-April 13, 2025

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, You emptied Yourself of Your divinity to take on the form of a human person, humbling Yourself even to death on the Cross. May this Cross be a sign for all generations of Your triumph over evil, suffering, sin and death.



The Collection for April 6, 2025

\$6,004.00 Sunday E-Giving Total

\$2,873.00 \$8,877.00



Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up for support of the Holy Places in the Holy Land but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational and social works which the

Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection.



St. Vincent de Paul representatives will be at the doors of the Church this 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.



"It is God who gives life. Let us respect and love human life, especially vulnerable life in a mother's womb."

Pope Francis May 2013

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord **Faithful Stewards**

"...I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me. " (Luke 22:34) How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about God or our Catholic faith? How did vou react? Do you remain quiet so not to cause a disturbance? Or, because you don't want people to think negatively about you? Or, because you don't think you know enough about the Catholic faith? Pray for the courage to speak up in Stewardship and enter into a respectful conversation when the opportunity to talk about our faith arises. Joyfully share your faith with others.



From the Pastor's Desk Holy Week 2025

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we begin the most sacred week of the year for Christians. We recall Christ's passion, death and resurrection. We are reminded of all that God has done for us in sending us His *Only Begotten Son*.

Palm Sunday recalls Jesus' triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem. His royal reception sees Him being lauded by the crowd: Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest. (Mt. 21:9) However, entering Jerusalem meant that Jesus was now ready to begin His bitter passion and to face death on a cross. The crowd quickly turned on Him as they chanted: Let him be crucified! . . . Let him be crucified! (Mt. 27: 22-23) We can see how quickly any glory and honor that the world may have for any of us can change to ridicule, scorn and even hatred. Sic transit gloria mundi.

On **Holy Thursday** (7:00 PM Mass) we recall the *Last Supper* where Jesus instituted the *Holy Eucharist* and the *Ministerial Priesthood*. Priesthood and the Holy Eucharist are intimately connected: without the Priesthood, there would be <u>no</u> Holy Eucharist. Jesus' actions also remind us of the call to service displayed by the *mandatum* or washing of the apostles' feet. *Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.* (Jn. 13: 12-15) The *Blessed Sacrament* will remain in the repository in our chapel until <u>10 PM</u>, where there is time for silent prayer and adoration.

The liturgy of the *Passion of the Lord* on **Good Friday** (3 PM Service) has 3 main components: a reading of the passion account from St. John's gospel followed by various intercessions, veneration of the cross and Holy Communion. Masses are <u>not</u> offered on Good Friday. In addition, the *Stations of the Cross* will be observed in the chapel at 7 PM. (This day remains a day of fast—one full meal—and abstinence from meat.)

The Easter Vigil (8 PM Mass) is <u>not</u> intended as a Mass to be rushed through quickly. (Please note: Mass usually lasts <u>minimally</u> about 2 hours.) There are so many beautiful parts that, if done reverently and properly, should not be hurried or omitted. We begin with a lighting of the Easter fire and a candlelight ceremony. Then follows the singing of the *Exultet* or Easter Proclamation. Salvation history is traced through a series of readings as the congregation is reminded of how God has continued to work in and through every age. After the readings comes the time to bring new members into the Catholic Church through *Baptism* and the reception of other *Sacraments of Initiation—Confirmation & Holy Communion*. (Unfortunately, there are <u>no</u> candidates or catechumens in our parish for the vigil Mass this year. We certainly need to encourage others among our family and friends who are not Catholic to consider becoming Catholic.) The Easter water is blessed at this time and sprinkled on the congregation as we renew our baptismal promises. Finally, Mass continues in normal fashion with the *Liturgy of the Eucharist*.

Please consider participation in these liturgies of the **Easter Triduum**. All of us need to be reminded of the saving events Christ undertook out of love for us, *sinners*. Any extra time we might choose to spend in Church pales in comparison to His many hours of suffering when He was mocked, tortured and died for us on the cross. The Masses for **Easter Sunday** are at the usual times: 8:30 AM and 11 AM.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

PALM SUNDAY-April 13, 2025

Ministry Schedule March April 16-20 2025

Mass Time	Clergy Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
Holy Thursday	Fr. Namiotka/ Fr. Victorina	Marta/Choir	J. Galati	L. Galati	S. Andino, L. Vascisin, A. Bresani
Good Friday	Fr. Namiotka	Julie/Choir	J. DeMichele	K. McFadden V C. Betson-Smith L	S. Andino, A,C,R, Witts
8:00PM VIGIL	Fr. Namiotka/ Fr. Victorino	Becca/Florence		S. Kane, J. Johnson, J. Cepeda	
EASTER 8:30 AM	Fr. Coronado	Celine/Julie	B. Massey	S. Oatway	A. Bresani/Witts
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Celine/Julie/Choir	J. Flynn, T. Librojo	L. Flynn	M & N Flynn L. Vascisin



This Holy week we remember Jesus' death. He died just as he lived-Forgiving, Giving and Sharing God's LOVE.

No Religious Education Classes next Sunday, April 20 in celebration of Easter.

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.





"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!

If you have not, pledge cards are at the doors of the Church.

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



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.



PALM SUNDAY-April 13, 2025



SATURDAY, 12

4:30 PM Richard Schweitzer, Sr. r/b Schweitzer 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 MONDAY, April 14

9:00 AM People of the Parish9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, April 15

9:00 AM Quintin Ruiz, Yolanda Navarrete Ruiz r/b Rosemarie Colon

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, April 16

9:00 AM Elva Clark r/b Clark Family **9:30**—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, April 17

7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper NO morning Mass or morning Adoration

FRIDAY, April 18

3:00 PM The Passion of the Lord NO morning Mass or Adoration

SATURDAY April 19

NO 4:30 PM Mass

8:00 PM Bill Kane r/b Family

SUNDAY April 20

8:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Teri Bones 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: May 9 and 16 10:00 AM

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



As Lent draws to a close, reflect on your Lenten journey, How have you grown closer to God? How have you grown in holiness? Give thanks to God for accompanying you in this season.

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*.



Easter Flower donation envelopes are included in your weekly envelope packet or envelopes can be found at the doors of the church. Your generosity will help to enhance our Easter

liturgies.

Extra **Easter donation envelopes** are at the doors of the Church if you did not receive one in the mail.

Remembering the Innocent Ministry of Christ the King Parish invites those who have suffered the loss of a child in utero, infancy or early childhood to attend a **MASS of REMEMBRANCE and HEALING** on Mon., April 28, 2025 at 7:00 PM celebrated by Fr. Chris Bakey.

All members of the family and friends affected by this loss re welcome.

Fellowship and refreshments to follow.

More information Call 856-429-1600 or religiouseducation@cthhaddonfield.org

PALM SUNDAY- April 13, 2025

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 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 20, 2025 – John 20:1-9 On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

Commentary:

Mary Magdalene ran from the empty tomb to tell Peter and John the troubling news. In turn, Peter and John ran to see for themselves. That first Easter morning, everyone was in a great hurry to share the burden, to seek understanding, to see for themselves. Fast forward to today - if any of us is in a hurry, it may be only to get a decent parking place at church, or to get a seat at the local breakfast buffet. It's good to be reminded that the first Easter was a rush to comprehend an impossible event. We might spare a few moments in contemplation of what made a grieving woman hitch up her skirts and dash through the dark, or grown men race like boys to embrace the mystery.

- 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?



Passion (Palm) Sunday 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.

faith justice

The Office of Life & Justice Ministries Presents
An Evening with the Prophet Jonah:
A Story of Resurrection, Expectations, and Hope
April 23rd 7 – 8 p.m.

The evening, led by Dr. Kyle Thompson, a Catholic educator, theologian, and biblical scholar on the theme of "hope," will begin with prayer, followed by a presentation and discussion.

This is a FREE, Virtual Event

The prophet Jonah went to Nineveh and preached repentance to his enemies. Then, the worst possible thing that Jonah could imagine happened—Nineveh repented, and God relented.

Since this is a virtual event, please use this QR code to register or email Mchael.Sims@camdendiocese.org to receive a link for the evening. If you have questions, please call Michael Sims, Director of Life & Justice Ministries. 856 -583-2910



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27th at 3:00 PM St. Mary Church, Cherry Hill, NJ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Anointing of the Sick and Benediction.

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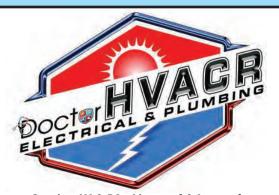
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