

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—July 6, 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 KN through Eight - Sunday 9:30 AM—10:45 AM
September through May

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 Flowers on the Altar this week
are in memory of
Jerry McMenamin
requested by Jeannine.



Congratulations to Joe Centonze for being awarded the KNIGHT of the YEAR honor for the Cherry Hill Council 6173 Knights of Columbus. Joe has participated and supported the Knights for many years.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewards Called

"He said to them, 'The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few...'" LUKE 10:2

As Catholics we are all called to Stewardship. Each of us has been given "charisms" otherwise known as gifts from the Holy Spirit to help build God's Church. Our charisms can only be used for good. We know that we are using them in the right ministry when we are filled with joy and we want to share stories about our charitable works. Discern how God is calling you to use your charisms. Say "yes" to what God is calling you to do and then do it! Share your joy and invite others to do the same.



From the Pastor's Desk

Being Catholic and American

Dear Parishioners,

As a nation, we celebrate our Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July. I think it is important to consider a few things as Roman Catholic citizens privileged to live in this country.

First, we have the freedom and the right **to practice** our Catholic faith. We acknowledge that we are “One Nation, Under God” in our pledge of allegiance. “In God We Trust” is printed on our currency. While it is not specified who that God is, our nation has conceded a dependence on a Higher Power greater than all of us. As Catholic Christians, we see this through the prism of our faith in **Jesus Christ**. He revealed to us most fully who God is. Our Bill of Rights (First Amendment) says clearly that congress shall make no law **prohibiting the free exercise** of religion. Every time we walk into a church, go to Mass, attend a baptism, witness a church wedding, etc. we should be thankful for the wisdom of our founding fathers.

Second, we have the right **to speak freely** when we disagree with government policies or laws. However, this must be done civilly and respectfully. Inciting violence, spewing hatred, exhibiting bigotry, and being anything other than Christ-like is simply far removed from the teaching and example of Jesus. Could Jesus be critical of authority? Absolutely! Consider how he called out the Pharisees, elders and religious leaders as a brood of vipers (Mt. 12: 34), whitewashed tombs and hypocrites (Mt. 23: 27). His words could be piercing and could foment resentment and even hatred by his opponents. His cleansing of the temple (Jn. 2: 14-22) shows how he could be passionate and forceful in what he said and did. Yet, ultimately, he submitted to civil and religious authority even as it culminated in torture and death on a cross.

Should we, as Catholics, speak up against the atrocity of legalized abortion, condemn racism and discrimination, denounce sexual abuse, and decry all forms of injustice and evil in our society? Unequivocally, **yes** and without the fear of reprisal from our government. Again, the First Amendment protects us here.

Third, while we do not live in a **theocracy**, our Catholic faith can and should have an **influence** on public policy. Our First Amendment does not establish any one religion as the acceptable or correct one. God is not our king. We have an elected president and elected government officials. However, as Catholics, we have as much of a right as anyone else to try to influence and shape public opinion and policy. Are we Christian nation? Technically, we are not. This does not mean that we should not be willing to be that light of the world (Mt. 5: 14) as Christians were within the Roman Empire or within other government systems throughout history.

I have said many times that I am not committed to any political party. This is because I hold that my soul belongs to **Jesus Christ alone** and not to any political party. At times, I have disagreed with both major parties on issues. Most likely, I will continue to do so.

Rather, I strive, imperfectly, for holiness of life. My goal is eternal life. As a Roman Catholic, I am very proud to live in this country and to be an American.

However, I try not to forget this important thought from St. Paul: **Our citizenship is in heaven and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.** (Phil. 3: 20)

Fr. Ed Namiołka, Pastor

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—July 6, 2025

Ministry Schedule July 12/13

Mass Time	Clergy Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	Greta Tyrrell	J. Bland-Campbell	T. Johnson
8:30 AM	Fr. Coronado	Music Ministry	Sr. Clare	K. Kraemer	
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	J. Flynn	L. Flynn	M & N Flynn, J. Hayden



Religious Education Registration is now open. Register before August 15th to avoid late fees.

Returning Families:

will register via ParishGiving.org
Families must use the same login information that was created last registration period. Parish Giving will send a welcome email with your login credentials and instructions on how to register. If you have any questions regarding "login", please call 866-307-7140.

New Families: Use the QR code. Once the form is complete, please follow the prompts from the "Parish Giving" emails.



Class begins on Sunday, September 21st 2025. Stay tuned for "special first day" details.

Classes are held Sunday mornings from 9:30am - 10:45am.



"Our Journey United in Hope,"
Campaign Prayer

Heavenly Father,

In this time of planning and service, we ask that you bring us hope. Hope that will renew us in this journey to build up the Church in South Jersey. Accept and use our Stewardship to the South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal in the same way you Multiplied the loaves and fishes to feed a multitude.

**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and
Reigns One God forever and ever. Amen.**

Thank you to all who already made a gift!

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

Please prayerfully consider donating.

Our Goal this year is \$74,300.00



Join us Thurs., Aug. 14 at 1:00 PM
In the Parish Hall.

"Conversation of Your Life"

Michelle Gentek-Mayer from the Camden County Surrogates Court will discuss the importance of wills, living will, funeral agent, power of attorney and personal Records.

Our Lady of MT. CARMEL
150th Anniversary Festival
1 Mt. Carmel Lane, Hammonton, NJ
July 14-19, 2025

Feast Day Procession on July 16th begins at 4PM
Longest running Italian Festival in the Country.
Amusements, Food, Music.
For more information visit
www.MountCarmelSociety.org

Please remember in prayer a former Parishioner, **Robert Sorrentino** who recently died. May he rest in peace.



Going on Vacation?
Need Mass Schedules?
Go to www.MASSTIMES.org





SATURDAY, July 5

4:30 PM Erlinda Lorenzana Yrastorza
r/b Emily Swartz & Family

SUNDAY, July 6

8:30 AM Marisa Schuenemann
r/b Joyce DeMichele

11:00 AM Jerry McMenamin r/b Jeannine

MONDAY, July 7

9:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, July 8

9:00 AM Intentions of Fr. Namiotka
r/b Greta Tyrrell

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, July 9

**9:00 AM Living and Deceased Members of the
Morgan Family**

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, July 10

9:00 AM Jerry McMenamin
r/b Jeannine

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, July 11

9:00 AM Carmen Culotta r/b Cindy Culotta

SATURDAY, July 12

4:30 PM James J. Grady, Sr.
r/b Pedone Family

SUNDAY, July 13

8:30 AM Alberto Librojo r/b Tess and Children

11:00 AM Jerry McMenamin r/b Jeannine

Prayer Intention for July

For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

Spanish Ministry Prayer Group

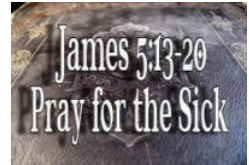
Meeting Dates July 11, 18, 25

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, Eileen Demcsak, Bryn Large.



**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.*



We provide compassionate outreach to the *elderly, persons with disabilities and their families* throughout the South Jersey area offering programs and services to support health and well-being needs of body, mind and spirit.

Counties served: Camden, Gloucester, Atlantic, Salem, Cumberland, Cape May

Services provided: Care Coordination, Hospital Chaplaincy, Ministry With the Deaf & Persons with Disabilities, Parish Nurse Program, Senior Ministry, Stephen Ministry

Cost: Our services are given freely regardless of income or religious affiliation.

Contact: If you or a loved one needs help or to learn more about us, call 1-888-268-4625 or visit VITALity.camdendiocese.org.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—July 6, 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.

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 13, 2025 Luke 10:25-37

(Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan in response to the scholar of the law who was testing Jesus. The scholar asked Jesus “who is my neighbor?” The man who fell victim to robbers in the story of the Good Samaritan is passed over by a priest and by a Levite, both of whom crossed to the opposite side of the road when they saw the beaten man.) “But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He poured oil and wine over the victim’s wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him... ‘Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers’ victim,’ asks Jesus. The scholar answered, ‘The one who treated him with mercy.’ Jesus said, ‘Go and do likewise.’”

Commentary:

Jesus does not need to answer the question of the “scholar” since the man already knows the answer. The issue is not knowing but doing, as Jesus instructs him “do this and you will live.” Similarly, as the lawyer knew the law, we know this very familiar parable. The issue for us is not knowing the parable; rather, it is the hard work of extending mercy not just to the neighbor we know but to any person in need.

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?

RULING of the HEART

ST THOMAS MORE
AFTERNOON at the MOVIES
Date: July 24, 2025 at 1:00 PM
ST. THOMAS MORE ROOM

Ruling Of The Heart

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US

When a strict judge gets stuck in a café during a snowstorm, he's confronted by two people he made judgments against and learns that the truth isn't always what appears on the surface. As he looks deeper into the lives of others, as well as himself, he finds the proper balance between justice and mercy.

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DESSERTS/SNACKS WELCOMED

faith justice

Catholic Social Teaching - Integral to Catholic identity“

Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel, or, in other words, of the Church’s mission for the redemption of the human race and its liberation from every oppressive situation.”

Synod of Bishops, Justice in the World, 1971



RESPECT LIFE CORNER

May the worthy reception of Jesus in the Eucharist strengthen our commitment to protect the gift of human life

A Summer Blessing

May we make our homes places of relaxation, joy, love, peace, and safety. May we be generous and considerate, not thinking only about ourselves, but helping others enjoy the blessings of the summertime. Lord God, Creator of all things, guide our steps and strengthen our hearts during these months of summer and vacation days. Grant us refreshment of mind and body. May we constantly strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our loved ones and in the world around us as we enjoy the warm days of summertime.

— *The Catholic Review*



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:

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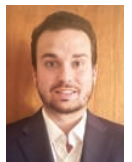
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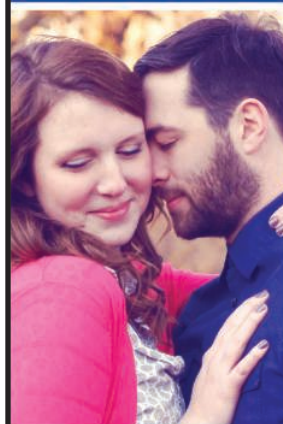


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