



## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 18, 2023

### 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.

### RCIA

*The Rite 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 contact Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate, 424-3212 ext. 104.

### 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



### A Prayer for Christian Fathers

Heavenly Father,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus,  
the child of Mary,  
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
Bless all fathers  
as they care for their families.  
Give them strength and wisdom,  
tenderness and patience;  
support them in the work they have to do,  
protecting those who look to them,  
as we look to you for love and salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender.  
Amen.

- Author Unknown



“If my people, who are called by My Name, **shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My Face, and turn** from their wicked ways; **then** will I hear from heaven, and will **forgive** their sin, and I will **heal** their land.” *2nd Chronicles 7:14*

**The collection for Sunday, June 11, 2023, was \$ 7842.00. The budgeted amount for this weekend was \$8500.**

God wants us to give because it shows that we recognize he is truly the Lord of our lives. *Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17, NIV* Everything we own and everything we have comes from God. So, when we give, we simply offer him a small portion of the abundance he has already given to us.



### Stewardship Corner: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Live Stewardship

“As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’” *MATTHEW 10:7*

Many of us take our lives for granted. We think we have plenty of time to “repent.” Maybe we should live with a little more urgency in making things right with God. This is the difference in living our discipleship out of obligation versus out of love. Obligation implies we do the minimum required. Love implies we want a relationship. God wants us to be with Him in Heaven forever, but He also wants us to live Stewardship and to be in relationship with us right now, while we are on earth. Start this second – invite the Lord into your heart.

From the Pastor's Desk  
**40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Thomas More Parish**

Dear Parishioners,

Next week, we celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, **St. Thomas More** (Wednesday, June 22). The date is shared with another English martyr, *St. John Fisher*. At that time, our parish will observe **40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration** from Wednesday evening, June 21 to Friday morning, June 23.

Following an evening Mass at 7 PM on June 21, the Blessed Sacrament will remain continually present on the altar in the church for private prayer and adoration. We will add an extra evening Mass at 7 PM on Thursday evening (in addition to our regular morning Mass at 9 AM). Fr. Nicholas Dudo, the *Vicar for Clergy* for the Diocese of Camden, will be the guest homilist during the two evening Masses. The closing Mass on June 23 (9 AM) will be followed by a Eucharistic procession and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I truly believe that when we take the time to be with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, it is an opportunity for tremendous blessing not only for us as individuals but also for our families and for our entire parish family. I do not ever want us to take for granted the great gift of the **Real Presence** of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Time spent with Him is indeed a grace-filled time. We can express our love and adoration for Jesus, thankfulness for our blessings, and contrition for sin (our own and the sins of others). We can also intercede for one another and petition the Lord for our various needs. It is an invaluable time to spend with Jesus Himself, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

When we come into the Lord's presence, Jesus can transform *us*. Come sit or kneel before the Master and open your hearts to Him. By our very presence there, we give Jesus permission to change our hearts and our lives. We may think that *we* go to pray, to petition and to worship, or even that *we are doing God a favor* by spending some of our precious time with Him. Our Lord Jesus truly desires that we spend time with Him, listening to Him. Remember, we are created to spend eternity with God and we can foster that precious relationship now before Jesus' Real Presence. We do not need to worry about what prayers we should say, what spiritual readings we should be reading or what we should be doing in His Presence. Just being with the Lord can be life-changing. He can soften our hearts, heal our wounds, inspire us and guide us. He can give us an inner peace that nothing in this world can match. Making the commitment to spend time with Him is part of the process of falling in love with Him. (Many parishioners have already experienced various spiritual gifts and blessings by spending time with Our Lord daily, during our established adoration time in chapel from 9:30 AM to Noon, Monday-Friday.)

What I am again requesting from you, my parishioners, is that you dedicate at least **one hour** sometime with the Lord in adoration during these three days. (Ideally, this should be in addition to any time attending Mass.) This devotion will continue for two nights—around the clock—and I need your help and cooperation in order to accomplish this. Could you please think about dedicating an hour in prayer before the Most Blessed Sacrament? Why not encourage members of your family to pray as a family for an hour? Perhaps a group or organization within the parish can make a holy hour together (Small Christian Communities, Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Faith and Justice Team, choir, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, etc.) I especially need a few night owls to cover the late hours! We are arranging to have added security at night.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the doors of the church so that we can be sure that there is always someone present with our Lord. Please assist me in making this a special time for our parish as we adore our Eucharistic Lord. This is certainly an important part of our parish's Eucharistic renewal.

*Fr. Ed Namiołka*  
Pastor



ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 18, 2023

Ministry Schedule for June 24/25

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Mimistry	G. Tyrrell	K. McFadden	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Mimistry	Sr. Diana	S. Oatway	E. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Mimistry	T. Librojo	J. Bland Campbell	M. Marsden



This past Sunday, we celebrated the solemnity of Corpus Christi and every parish across the country embarked on the Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival. The Aim of this Eucharistic Revival is that throughout the next year, the

Catholic Church in the United States will experience profound renewal in Eucharistic faith and love of this most precious gift. Our Lord promises to reinvigorate our communities with his Real Presence, setting our hearts on fire with his love and lavishing new graces upon our communities. The Eucharistic Revival is a movement of the Catholic Church in the USA to help all faithful to enflame or rediscover the faith in the presence of JESUS in Eucharist. The feast of Corpus Christi reminds us that the Eucharist is the most precious gift given to us by Jesus. His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity is present to us at every Mass, regardless of us! However, we are always invited to make an act of faith in his presence. We have the opportunity and gift to make acts of faith that God is who he says he is, and that he has fulfilled his promises and stands by his Word.

*Love for the Eucharist is something that cannot be taught. To truly believe in Jesus' power as the Bread of Life, we need more than a class or a book. We need the gift of faith, oftentimes bolstered by experience. No book can teach us the depth of meaning hidden in this intimate access to the Lord of the*

*Universe. However, through the movement of the Spirit, the words and lives of saints who loved the Eucharist can ignite in us a desire to discover in our own lives what they found. "What is it that these great saints, everyday Catholics with courageous love, had that I'm still searching for?"*



**St. Thomas More Feast Day – 40 Hours Devotion Schedule**

The Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. The focus of this devotion is Jesus 'Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

All Masses and Eucharistic Adoration will be in the CHURCH.

**Wed., June 21**

Mass 7:00 PM followed by Eucharistic Exposition throughout the night. Rev. Nicholas Dudo, Vicar for Clergy, homilist

**Thurs., June 22**

9:00 AM Mass (in Church) followed by Eucharistic Exposition throughout the day  
7:00 PM Mass followed by Eucharistic Exposition throughout the night. Rev. Nicholas Dudo, Vicar for Clergy, homilist

**Fri., June 23**

9:00 AM Mass followed by Benediction and a procession. (Closing of 40 Hour Devotion. No Eucharistic Adoration today after Mass)

Please consider filling a time slot as the Forty Hours Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole.

We would like to have a minimum of TWO people sign up for each time slot. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering space. Only the front door will be open for visitation.



**2023 APPEAL: "For the Life of the World"**

**St. Thomas More Parish**

**Goal: \$89,700**

**Total to Date: \$41,445.00 – 46.2%**

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 18, 2023

Weekly Intentions



**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

4:30 PM Father's Day Intentions

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18**

8:30 AM Father's Day Intentions

11:00 AM Father's Day Intentions

**MONDAY, JUNE 19**

9:00 AM people of the parish

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20**

9:00 AM Brian Deutsch r/b mom

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21**

9:00 AM living & deceased members of the Morgan family in Ireland

9:30—12noon Adoration in the CHURCH

7:00 PM People of the Parish

**THURSDAY, JUNE 22**

9:00 AM Anne Gehring r/b family

9:30—12noon Adoration in the CHURCH

7:00 PM People of the Parish

**FRIDAY, JUNE 23**

9:00 AM Happy Birthday, Joe Sklencar r/b Greta

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

4:30 PM Ed Lopes r/b Tobin family

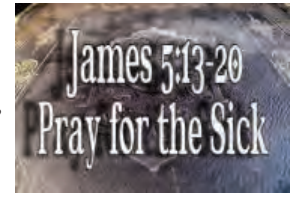
**SUNDAY, JUNE 25**

8:30 AM Joe & Marie Bongiovanni r/b Dave Bongiovanni

11:00 AM Phyllis Kolecki r/b Bill & Ann Vigrass

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE SICK...**

Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark, Grace Cobin, Tammy Colon, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Eleanor Rizzo, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Roy Targonski, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner.



**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...**



SPC Jordan Beckman, Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Major Anthony R. Cosentino, USAF, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Lt. Christopher Mawn, Lt. Jacqueline A. McCabe, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sisi Tyrrell, USMC, SPC Nicole Williams, and *all those serving our country.*

The Consolation Ministry to the bereaved of St. Thomas More Parish will meet on Thurs., June 29 at 1:00 PM. This will be a luncheon meeting at the Fat Tomato Italian Bistro located at 175 Route 73, Berlin, NJ. Please RSVP to [jonll1@comcast.net](mailto:jonll1@comcast.net) if you wish to attend



Please pray for the repose of the soul of: **Luis Dizon** (Lucia Ibay's Brother)

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for June**

For Church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world."

**Our Prayers and Good Wishes**

The parishioners and staff of St. Thomas More wish Mena and Arnold Kramer many blessings as they begin a new venture in their journey of life. Mena and Arnold are moving to Florida to be close to their son and his family. We wish them well and thank them for their many contributions to our parish family. Mena and Arnold were both members of our choir and Mena was a cantor as well. We also thank Mena for her many years of facilitating a Small Christian Community in her home, as well.



**Eucharistic Revival (Quotes from Pope Francis)**

"To live the experience of faith means to allow oneself to be nourished by the Lord and to build one's existence not with material goods but with the reality that does not perish; the gifts of God, his Word and his Body."

Members of the St. Vincent DePaul Society will be at the doors of the church this weekend accepting your donations of non-perishable goods and monetary assistance in their ministry to "feed the hungry".



## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 18, 2023

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

### Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

#### Excerpt from the Gospel for the Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time, June 25, 2023 - Matt. 10:26-33

Jesus said to the Twelve: "Fear no one. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

#### Commentary:

Today's gospel deals with persecution and how the disciples were to respond. They were to have complete trust in Jesus. They were to have no fear of those who would threaten their lives. They were to stand strong before the divisions that might come. God, who loved so much that he counted the hairs on their heads, would not abandon them. Matthew's purpose in emphasizing this care in times of trial comes out of the situation of his community. Many people had rejected the Good News announced by Jesus, and they were rejecting his followers and throwing them out of the synagogues. Through the Gospel, he reminds them that Jesus will be with them through the Spirit as he promised.

#### 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:



Happy Father's Day!



#### Ukrainian Children Deported

More than 19,000 Ukrainian children have been forcibly deported into Russia or Russian-held territories, according to a Ukrainian government website. The U.N. Human Rights Office has classified Russia's illegal transfer of children into its territories as a war crime.

Recently President Zelenskyy asked Pope Francis' collaboration in trying to get the children back into Ukraine.



The second year of the Eucharistic Revival is to be celebrated in the local parish. Our celebration began on the Feast of Corpus Christi with a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction.



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