

St. Thomas More Church

1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003

856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411

Web Site: <http://stthomasmorenj.org/> • E-mail: stthomasmore@comcast.net

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



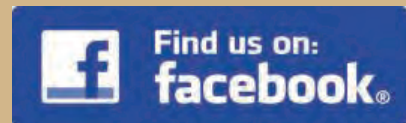
Rite of Reconciliation Saturday

3:00—4:00 PM

In the Chapel

First Fridays after the 9:00 AM Mass

Father Edward Namiotka, Pastor
 Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
 Sister Clare Sabini, FMIJ, Director of Religious Education
 Julie Linn, Music Ministry
 Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary
 Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration



Send all bulletin announcements to:
stmsecretary1439@gmail.com by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover		
<i>Christian Life/Education</i>			
Bereavement	Staff 856- 424-3212	<i>Worship</i>	
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento 856- 344-7454	Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212
Faith & Justice Team	Jon Lisitski jonll1@comcast.net	Church Environment	Committee
Hospital Visitors	Chris Baeckstrom 856-912-7078	Ch. Art Environment	Committee
Intercessory Prayer	Staff & Euch. Ministers 856-424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers	Sr. Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212
Knights of Columbus	Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217	Lectors	Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes
Marriage Formation	Brian Haughwout 609-458-7851	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass 856-428-7217
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 856-795-1160	Sacristans	Greta Tyrrell 856-428-2412
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Sr. Clare Sabini 856-424-3212		Dom Sacca
Respect Life	Ann Vigrass 856- 428-7217		Dave Bongiovanni
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Staff	Ushers	Joe Centonze
Rosary Ministry	Sister Ann Byrnes 856-424-3212	<i>Social Development</i>	Chico Febus
Small Christian Comm.	Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053	Bridge Groups	
Spiritual Retreats	Sr. Ann Byrnes		Joyce DeMichele 856-424-4008
St. Vincent de Paul	John Galati 856-428-7073	Parish Festival	Barbara Cerquitella 856-795-7323
Stewardship	Chico Febus 856- 424-3212	Women's Club	Committee 856-424-3212
Welcoming Team	Sheila Tartamosa 856-424-3212		Barbara Cerquitella 856-795-7323
	Shirley Kane 856-424-8022	<i>Administration</i>	Lorraine Kennedy 856-489-0031
		House of Charity	
		Parish Finance Council	Sheila Tartamosa 856-424-3212
		Parish Pastoral Council	Robert Crawford 856-424-3212
			Marie Enny 856-751-8893

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 23, 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



“Let both weeds and wheat continue to grow”

Lord of the harvest,
help us to refrain from judging the “weeds”
in our environment and to become
more aware of the weeds within ourselves.
May we recognize that our discipleship is to be
welcoming, merciful, patient, compassionate and to
leave judgement to You.



“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*

Going on vacation? Need
Mass Schedule for your
vacation destination?
www.masstimes.org



The collection for Sunday, July 16, 2023 was \$4648 The budgeted amount was \$8500. God wants us to give because it shows that we recognize he is truly the Lord of our lives. **“Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.” Deut. 15:10 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: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewards Good Seeds

“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom.” - Matthew 38:47

As children of God, we are all “good seeds”. We are blessed by God with the Stewardship potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God’s plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others and share our financial gifts to help build God’s kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow “good seeds” on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

From the Pastor's Desk Trying to Take in Some Vitamin D

Dear Parishioners,

By the time you read this message, I will be on vacation at the Jersey shore as well as other beaches.

Being raised in Wildwood-by-the-Sea, NJ, I grew up loving the beach and boardwalk. I still like to soak in the sun when I am able, although I get continual warnings from my dermatologist to “be sure to use your sun-block!” Sometimes, I spend time at the shore with mom. I also like to join friends for dinner and go to the beach with them as my mom no longer is able to do so. So far the weather has cooperated but there is also a prediction of the possibility of intermittent thunderstorms as well. Oh well!

As a former high school teacher, I told my students hundreds of times that there is no vacation from God—especially during their summer and holiday breaks. Now I find myself on a brief summer vacation while trying to maintain some semblance of a prayer life. I inevitably pack a small “Mass kit” which enables me to offer Mass no matter where I am. Mass can then be celebrated privately in mom’s condo, someone’s home or in a hotel room on a daily basis. Thankfully, it is so convenient for my mom (and me) that her son is a priest!

Maybe I’m strange, but if I were not a priest, Mass would be an important consideration for me as part of my vacation. I would want to travel where God was not something of an afterthought—just one activity among many. There are various apps that you can download on your phone these days, as well as the web site masstimes.org, enabling the traveler to find a Catholic Mass while on vacation. The excuses for not knowing where and when a Mass can be found are becoming more bogus.

Years ago, the summer Mass schedule in Wildwood was unbelievable. Mass was celebrated almost every hour in St. Ann Church and alternately every half hour in the Wildwood Catholic High School gym and auditorium. There were somewhere around twenty to twenty-five Masses each weekend. If I included the Masses in Wildwood Crest (Assumption Church) the number would be well over thirty each week. The total today in all three locations is less than ten (including one in Spanish). Do you see any pattern here? I walked the boardwalk last night, as I frequently do. The humidity was bad but the ocean breeze helps a little. I love to observe the many people visiting the shore resorts, although I am not always edified by their language or behavior.

When St. Paul came to Corinth, it was a notorious seaport filled with vice. When he went to Rome, he had to face the immorality and corruption within the Roman Empire. All the cities he visited had their own particular problems and degrees of sinful behavior. To the people of Ephesus, he wrote the following:

So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma. Immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be mentioned among you, as is fitting among holy ones, no obscenity or silly or suggestive talk, which is out of place, but instead, thanksgiving. Be sure of this, that no immoral or impure or greedy person, that is, an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. (Eph. 5: 1-5)

I hope and pray that we all desire to have some inheritance in the Kingdom of God. This means that we all must strive continually to conform our lives to the teaching of the Sacred Scriptures—even while on vacation.

There is never really a vacation from God!

Fr. Ed Namiołka, Pastor

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 23, 2023

Ministry Schedule for July 29/30

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	E. Beckman	J. Bland Campbell	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Celine Julie	B. Massey	T. Smith	T. Kenny E. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Celine Julie	J. Galati	L. Galati	L. & G. Hutchinson



“This is my body which is broken for you..., this is my blood poured out for you...”

How great the love the Lord has given and daily gives us!

An authentic participation at the Eucharistic Celebration makes us more and more capable of totality of love, that very love that we freely and abundantly receive from the heart of Jesus. “Christ will not ask us how many things we have done, but how much love we have put into our actions” (Sainte Teresa of Calcutta)



How is my encounter with Jesus’ love in the Eucharist? Am I aware of my responsibility to share this great mystery of love with my children and with those I encounter daily, most especially the needy and the lonely? Let’s ask His Spirit of Love to keep teaching us to Love, in the ways He does.

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year has begun. Registration forms have been emailed to all returning students. **Forms may be found on the Parish website:**

stthomasmorenj.org. On the left hand side, click on Religious Education Registration form.



A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go. May you talk to God this summer and everyday and in every situation. May you talk with God every day. *Heartfelt*

SUMMER



St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry meeting 1:00 PM Thursday, July 27, 2023 in the St. Thomas More Room.

Our mission is to be a source of love, comfort, and support to those who experience loss through death. We work to reach out to those who experience loss, so they will feel the healing comfort of God through this faith community. We hope you will allow us to walk alongside you through your grief journey as a companion who has seen the same terrain.

Join us or **call for more information.**

AnnMarie Lento 856-344-7454; Jon Lisitski 856-210-6466; Marian Kapischke 856-424-2053

My Prayer for America

Heavenly Father, our nation has lost its way. Have mercy on us and set your lamp before us so we might find the path back to Your grace. It is only through You that our nation finds its goodness and strength. And please grant me the courage to tend this flame of Christian Renewal in America so your light may shine among the nations for generations to come.



“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. “ John 1:5.

Amen M. Pence



The flowers on the altar this week were placed there **in loving memory of John Vivone, Sr. requested by family.**

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 23, 2023

Weekly Intentions



SATURDAY, JULY 22

4:30 PM Lucien Picard r/b June Kelly, Anne Joy and Fran Schuda

SUNDAY, JULY 23

8:30 AM Erika Belli Trudeau r/b Erika & Joe Gilson

11:00 AM Jerry McMenamain r/b Jeannine

MONDAY, JULY 24

9:00 AM people of the parish

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, JULY 25

9:00 AM Bridget Namiotka r/b family

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

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

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, JULY 27

9:00 AM Alberto Librojo r/b Tess and children

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, JULY 28

9:00 AM Rita Matarazzo r/b Elizabeth Turley

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, JULY 29

4:30 PM Intentions of Charlotte Centonze r/b Joe

SUNDAY, JULY 30

8:30 AM Nelson Guardado r/b family

11:00 AM Intentions of Gregory Tyrrell r/b family

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for July For an Eucharistic life

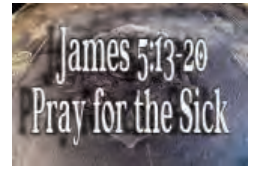
We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



2023 APPEAL: "For the Life of the World"
St. Thomas More Parish
Goal: \$89,700
Total to Date: \$43,995.00 —49%

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, 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, Ed Targonski, Sr., 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, Sam Houston, USN, 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.*

Looking Ahead! Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass, September 24, 2023. 3:00PM Mass St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Absecon.

If in the year 2023 you are celebrating a milestone anniversary of 25, 50, 60 or 70 years or more, you are invited!

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.



Eucharistic Revival (Quotes from Pope Francis)

"If we look around, we realize there are so many offers of food which do not come from the Lord and which appear to be more satisfying. Some nourish themselves with money, others with success and vanity, others with power and pride. But, the food that truly nourishes and satiates us is only that which the Lord gives us! (*Homily, June 19, 2014*)

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 23, 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 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 30, 2023, Matt. 13:44-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

Commentary:

The Gospel today speaks of true wisdom, a priceless treasure to be sought with all one's heart. In the first comparison Jesus uses, a man discovers a treasure that was so valuable that he "sold all he had and bought the field." In the second comparison a pearl merchant discovers a pearl worth more than all his other possessions. Common to both stories is the marvel of discovering such a prize and giving everything to gain possession of it. The point of both parables is that *gaining the treasure of God's saving love is worth any sacrifice.*

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 Commentary resonates with me?



Pro-Life Corner:

"We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, of killings, of wars, of hatred. If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other." St. Teresa of Calcutta

Wedding of the Sea– August 15, 2023

Tuesday, August 15th, 2023 the Wedding of the Sea Mass will be held at the Hard Rock Casino, Atlantic City, at 12 Noon with the doors

opening at 11 AM. Following the Mass, the Blessed Mother Statue will process from the Hard Rock on Pennsylvania Avenue to the Boardwalk. The wreath will be tossed by the Bishop on the beach at Pennsylvania Avenue at approximately 1:15 PM.



What is Catholic Evangelization?

Rephrasing some words of Pope Paul VI in Evangelii Nuntiandi, this document states:

"Evangelizing means bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation and seeking to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself. At its essence are the proclamation of salvation in Jesus Christ and the response of a person in faith, which are both works of the Spirit of God. Evangelization must always be directly connected to the Lord Jesus Christ....There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the Kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God are not proclaimed."(#10-11)



U.S. Catholic Sisters work to alleviate Human Trafficking

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking (USCSAHT) is a collaborative faith-based national network that offers education, support, access to survivor services, and engages in advocacy to end modern-day slavery. We work to inform the public, prevent this assault on human dignity, and assist survivors to live fulfilling lives.

Our members include over 100+ congregations of Catholic Sisters, coalitions working against human trafficking and individuals who share our work.

Fact: In 2016, the [International Labour Organization](#) estimated there were over 40 million victims that year. Men, women, and children can all be forced into human trafficking.

Ending slavery is everyone's business!

Summer Vacations are here!

While enjoying the summer sun and activity, remember your home parish, St. Thomas More. Our bills continue and we need your help to meet them. If you cannot contribute regularly while on vacation, may we suggest keeping the unused envelopes on hand and bringing your contribution up-to-date when you return? Or consider **Parish Giving, an online contribution program, information available at our website: stthomasmorenj.org.** Enjoy your vacation and we will see you when you return!

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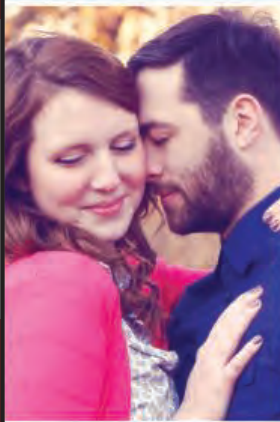
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You can also Contact Lori-Anne Miller at lori-anne@rmhcphilly.org or 215.387.8406

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