

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 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
Father Victorino Coronado, In Residence
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
Sheila Tartamosa, Business Manager



Find us on:
facebook®

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

DIRECTORY

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 23, 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.



We realize that “the house of the Lord” is far more than just a building as the Bible declares that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit, however, there is still something quite amazing about gathering together with the family of God on a weekly basis to worship the Lord!



The Collection for February 16, 2025

Sunday	\$5891.00
E-Giving	\$1550.00
Total	\$7441.00

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



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

As Catholics we believe that when we pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament (Jesus in the Tabernacle or the Monstrance), the fullness of His life, power and love are present. Jesus is here with you right now!

Come Pray with Him.

The arts at Camden Catholic High School
Presents *Tuck Everlasting*

Based on the novel by Natalie Babbitt

March 7, 8, 14, 15 at 7:30 PM

March 9 and 16 at 2:00 PM

For ticket information or sponsor support
go to www.cchspanperformingarts.com

You are invited to join the
KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS
Cherry Hill Council

At the Marlton **OUTBACK** Steakhouse
901 Route 73
856-983-0921

Kick back with your mate and dig into a crispy
Bloomin Onion. Enjoy a Bold, perfectly cooked steak
and a tasty cocktail to wash it all down.

DATE: Tuesday, February 25, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM—9:30 PM

15% of your total check will be donated to the K of C
Must present Flyer



From the Pastor's Desk

Love of Enemies

Dear Parishioners,

The focus of Jesus teaching was definitively on **Love**. First, he told us that the greatest commandment in the Law (Torah) was the *Love of God*: "**Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?**" [Jesus] said to him, "**You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment.**" (Mt. 22: 36-38)

Then Jesus took a less prominent precept from the book of Leviticus (Lv. 19:18) and placed it beside the commandment to love God: "**The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.**" (Mt. 22: 39-40)

Most reasonable believers would find that this instruction makes sense. The difficulty that almost everyone would have with Jesus' teaching was when He took matters ever further: "**To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.**" (Lk. 6: 27-28) Now He seems to be going too far, too extreme. How can I possibly love an *enemy*?

Truth be told, it is not *natural* for anyone to accomplish this task. We would have to do something above and beyond that which we are normally capable as a human. We really can't accomplish such things without the aid of *God's supernatural grace*.

Throughout my lifetime I have encountered parents willing to forgive the person who raped and killed their daughter (Shannon Schieber), a Polish mother who forgave soldiers who brutally beat her son (Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko) to death, and a pope (St. John Paul II) who forgave his would-be-assassin. I read about how St. Maria Goretti forgave and prayed for the person who stabbed her to death. I also heard how Immaculee Ilibagiza survived the 1994 Rwandan genocide in her book *Left to Tell* and eventually forgave her family's killers. These and many other stories like theirs (from the time of the earliest Christian martyrs, including St. Stephen) show us all that what seems impossible from a human perspective can come to be with the supernatural *grace of God*.

Jesus showed us from the cross (see Lk. 23: 34) how He was willing to forgive those who put Him to death. Could He not also assist those who experience unbearable and unspeakable tragedies to find forgiveness, peace and healing? I hope and pray so. I have seen examples of it happening.

I also hope and pray that I may never have to face the tragic circumstances that others have had to because of war, crime, injustice or evil. The world is not fair and bad things happen to good people far too often. Jesus is the perfect example of that. Yet, He still challenges us to rise above the difficult and unfair circumstances of life and to continue *to love* despite it all.

Easy? Absolutely not.

Possible? All things are possible with God's grace.

Fr. Ed Namiołka
Pastor

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 23, 2025

Ministry Schedule March 1/2 2025

	Clergy	Music	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Music Ministry	R. Javier	J. Cepeda	
8:30 AM	Fr.	Music Ministry	B. Massey	D. Mayfield	A. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr.	Music Ministry	J. DeMichele	J. Johnson	J. Hayden L. Vascisin



The Religious Education students are busy preparing for the Sacraments. The Eighth Grade Class recently completed their Confirmation instruction with Fr. Edward Namiotka with the assistance of Katie Witts. The Seventh Grade also partook of their preliminary Confirmation sessions. Our Second Grade students are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on March 8th. They recently attended a First Penance Retreat under the guidance of Judy Galati. We appreciate the help of Jen Flynn, Katie Witts and Judy Galati along with ALL our catechists and aids who faithfully devote their time and knowledge to our students on a weekly basis. **THANK YOU! Keep them in your prayers.**

Employment Opportunity
If you want to join the dedicated and faithful staff at the Sacred Heart Residence in Cherry Hill – **the independent living center for the retired priests of the Diocese of Camden** – a position for house-keeper/cook is available. This fulltime position, during daytime hours, focuses primarily on the housekeeping responsibilities at this beautiful and tranquil center where faith and work are equally important. If interested or for more information please go online to:
<https://www.camdendiocese.org/housekeeper-cook/>

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



This year’s theme: **“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.

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.**

You should have received a mailing from Bishop Sullivan for the 2025 *South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal*. If not, there are pledge cards at the doors of the Church. I ask that you please consider donating to this year’s campaign. It is important that we come together to support our ministries. They need the resources necessary to continue serving those in need.

By supporting the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, you are supporting those who comprise the programs and ministries of the Diocese of Camden. These ministries serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the hungry and challenged. Help us bring the light of *hope* to those in the Catholic community of South Jersey.

**Please prayerfully consider joining us once again.
Our Goal this year is \$74,300.00**

MASS Intentions

Saturday, Feb. 22

4:30 PM Ellen Burke r/b Pat and Nick Kirincic

Sunday, Feb. 23

8:30 AM Intentions of Sr. Roseangela
r/b FMIJ

11:00 AM Marisa Galloway
r/b STM Consolation Ministry

MONDAY, Feb. 24

9:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, Feb. 25

9:00 AM Intentions of Sisi Tyrrell
r/b Greta

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 26

9:00 AM Ellen Burke r/b Pat Byrnes

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, Feb. 27

9:00 AM Alberto Librojo
r/b Jenny Margallo

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, Feb. 28

9:00 AM Dorothy Birney r/b Mary

9:30—Noon Adoration in the Chapel

Saturday, March 1 (First Saturday)

9:00 AM

4:30 PM Gary Scarpa and Bobby Scarpa
r/b Greta

Sunday, March 2

8:30 AM Ronald A. Belonia r/b John and Letty Duffy

11:00 AM Ann and Joe Primwhere r/b Jeannine

**Pope Francis Prayer Intention for February
For vocations to the priesthood and religious life**

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Spanish Ministry Prayer Group
St. Thomas More Parish
Meeting Dates**

Friday: Feb. 28 And March 7, 14, 21, 28
2025

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



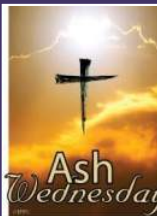
**PLEASE REMEMBER IN
YOUR PRAYERS: THE**

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Joe Centonze, Grace Cobin, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Linda Di Giulio, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, 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, Dolly Staton.



**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, U.S. Army and *all those serving our country.*



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Day of Fast and Abstinence

Mass Schedule

March 5—9:00 AM and 4:30 PM

There will be a special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.



Catholic Church of St. Mary
2001 Springdale Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

Parish Hall



BLOOD DRIVE
Be a Hero.
Give Blood.

Thursday, March 20, 2025
9:30am-7:30pm



Register at redcrossblood.org.
Use Sponsor Code: Saint Mary RCC
or use QR code on your smartphone.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 23, 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 the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, March 2, 2025 – Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told his disciples a parable: "Can a blind person guide a blind person. Will not both fall into a pit. No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye. A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit, for every tree is known by its own fruit."

Commentary:

Today's Gospel shares with Matthew's Sermon on Mount the saying of the speck and the plank and the tree and its fruits, which is an indication that they were in the common source used by Luke and Matthew. In every community there are people who are quick to point out other people's faults. This self-righteousness is not only annoying; it is dangerous. It can blind these self-appointed guardians of moral conduct to their own, often serious, shortcomings. They are warned here in graphic terms. In the end, the test of one's goodness is one's own conduct.

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?

ST THOMAS MORE Parish presents
AFTERNOON 2:00 MOVIE SHOW, February 28, 2025
ST. THOMAS MORE ROOM

The Ultimate Gift

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US

Based on Jim Stovall's best-selling novel, *The Ultimate Gift* sends a young man of privilege on an improbable journey.

Trust fund Baby Jason Stevens (Drew Fuller) loves all of life's gifts, as long as they're bankable. But when his wealthy grandfather, Red (Garner), dies, Jason receives a most unusual inheritance: twelve tasks, which Red calls "gifts", to challenge Jason to grow as a man. If he succeeds, the experience will not only change Jason forever, but he will discover the real meaning of wealth.

MARIANNE GORIN 856 3461811

JON LISITSKI

JONLL1@COMCAST.NET

DESSERTS/SNACKS WELCOMED

Sign-up in the Gathering Space

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time Stewards Love

"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back..." - LUKE 6:35

Easier said than done, right? But, in **Stewardship**, we are to imitate Christ. Most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Praying for our enemies doesn't change them, it changes us. Mercy and compassion will keep us on the path to holiness.



The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.



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

YOUR
Catholic
Cemetery

JESUS, BREAD of LIFE Cemetery & Mausoleum

A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

HEATED & AIRCONDITIONED



A Ministry of Hope
in Eternal Life

CONSECRATED
Holy & Sacred Place

St. Thomas More
Parishioner
Discount



Crypts * Marble Niches * Plots * Glass Niches * Columbariums - Professionally Landscaped

PRE-PLANNING OPTIONS
AVAILABLE: 0%/24 MONTHS
MILITARY/KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
1ST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT

1.5 MILES FROM ROUTE 295 | 3055 FOSTERTOWN ROAD, MOUNT LAUREL NEW JERSEY | (856) 317-6400 | WWW.CATHOLICCEMETERIESSOUTHJERSEY.ORG



\$350 Off

Any New Stairlift
With This Ad

- FREE in home evaluations
- Family owned & operated for more than 20 years

1.888.900.8883

www.Tri-StateStairlifts.com

tri-state
STAIRLIFTS

Connecting businesses to
customers in realtime!



FindingFIBER



Morgan basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

French Drains Foundation Repair Mold Remediation

All Work Guaranteed

877-401-4777

www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com



Almark Home Improvements



Handyman Jobs Home Repairs & Remodeling 856-261-2460

Lic.#13VH09325300

Fully Insured



Memorial Planning

Edward McGlenn

Family Service Counselor
Locustwood Cemetery
& Arlington & Bethel Cemeteries



1500 Route 70 W • Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

856-685-9673 • emcgl@everstorypartners.com

Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...
Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!



www.MallorysArmy.com
(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org
It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send
your email address by text message:
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

Message and data rates may apply.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I
STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

ASK #WHATSMYNAME
BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE

Jim Doyle

Church Bulletin Representative
I'm here to help your business
be noticed!



jdoyle@jppc.net
609-410-6325

www.jppcadvertising.com



JOHN PATRICK
publishing company, inc.



Advertise your business in the Church Bulletin

- In print, online and interactive app
- Reaches parish families and visitors each week
- Constant presence keeps a strong link between you and customers
- Well-read publication - a trusted source
- Affordable Advertising - local, targeted to community



BRADLEY FUNERAL HOME




"Celebrating 50 Years of Commitment to Community"

Jill Bradley Ingram, Mgr., N.J. Lic. No. 4226 • Wilson R. Bradley, N.J. Lic. No. 2917 • Patrick P. Smarrito, N.J. Lic. No. 3571
Brian J. Barnett, N.J. Lic. No. 3909 • Kevin T. Comber, N.J. Lic. No. 4660

One Location ~ Serving Your Family Since 1968 | www.BradleyFHMarlton.com | 856-983-1005

McNulty Roofing
 **ROOFING** 
SIDING & WINDOWS
 DONE THE WAY THINGS USED
 TO BE DONE, WITH PRIDE.
 In Cherry Hill
 Over 30 Years
856-667-4545
www.mcnultyroofingandsidingco.com

 **Batastini**
Orthodontics
www.braceme.com
 Cherry Hill (856) 428-1888 Vineland (856) 696-2600 Hammonton (609) 561-2424
PFB NJ#3672

DOUGLAS A. FENDRICK, ESQUIRE
 ELDER LAW
 ESTATE PLANNING
 SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING
 LIFE CARE PLANNING
 **FENDRICK MORGAN**
 LIFE REQUIRES PLANNING www.fendrickmorganlaw.com
 1950 Route 70 East
 Suite 200
 Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
(856) 489-8388

BOCCO FUNERAL HOME

Joseph C. Bocco, Jr., Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 3323

Nicholas Joseph Lukaszewicz, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5119

1300 North Kings Hwy. • Cherry Hill

(856) 795-5991

www.boccofuneralhome.com

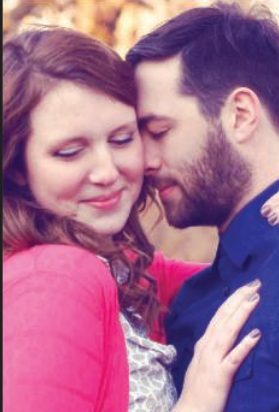

DOCTOR HVACR
 ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING
 Serving NJ & PA • Licensed & Insured
\$25 HEATING SYSTEM TUNE-UP (\$125 Value)
 Residential & Commercial

 Healing Your Home, One System at a Time
 Mobile: 856-900-2260 • Kevin H. Nguyen, PhD
 10 Year Warranty On Parts & Labor On New Installations

Family Owned and Operated Since 1987 FREE INSPECTION Licensed & Insured

RIGHTWAY WATERPROOFING CO.
 BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
 MOLD REMEDIATION
 FOUNDATION REPAIR
 **856-317-1111**

www.RightwayWaterproofing.com

catholicmatch®
 New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ

SCHETTER FUNERAL HOME

304 W. Route 70 • Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
www.schetterfh.com • 856-429-8545

William A. Schetter III, Manager, Lic. # 4826 • William A. Schetter, Jr. Director, Lic. # 3393
Edmund J. Putnick, Director, Lic. # 3949