

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

Eucharistic Celebrations
 Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
 Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am
 Weekdays:
 Monday-Saturday: 9:00 am
 Holyday: 6:45 & 9:00 am & 7:00 pm



Rite of Reconciliation
Saturdays during Lent:
 9:30—10:00am
 3:00-4:00 pm or any time by
 appointment

**Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 am—
 12noon Fridays in the Chapel**

**Find us on Facebook:
 St. Thomas More Parish CH**

Email address for bulletin items:
stmsecretary1439@gmail.com.

**Please submit all items for the
 bulletin by 2:00 pm Monday.**

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees Jeannine McMenamin 424-3212
 Henry Glover

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement Staff 424-3212
 Consolation Ministry Ann Marie Lento 344-7454
 Hospital Visitors Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212
 Intercessory Prayer Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Knights of Columbus David Galloway 609-980 6006
 Marriage Formation Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 795-1160
 Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sr. Clare Sabini 424-3212
 Prayer Shawls Sheila Mohan
 Ann Vigrass 428-7217

Respect Life

Rite of Ch. Init. Adults Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
 Rosary Ministry Marian Kapischke 424-2053
 Small Christian Comm. Ann Marie/Bob Lento 344-7454
 Spiritual Retreats John Galati 428-7073
 St. Vincent de Paul Paul Rossi 424-3212
 Stewardship Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
 Youth Ministry Cristina Chillem 424-3212
 youthgroup@stthomasmorenj.org

Worship

Altar Servers Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
 Pat Maggart
 Church Environment Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Ch. Art Environment Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Eucharistic Ministers Sr. Ann Byrnes 424-3212
 Lectors Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes
 Linen Committee Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Sacristans Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
 Dom Sacca
 Pat Maggart
 Dave Bongiovanni
 Joe Centonze
 Chico Febus

Ushers

Social Development
 Bridge Groups Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
 Lin Lyon 795-4396
 Funsters (over 50 club)
 Parish Festival Committee 424-3212
 Women's Club Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
 Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031

Administration

House of Charity Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
 Parish Finance Council Robert Crawford 424-3212
 Parish Pastoral Council Marie Enny 751-8893

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 22, 2020

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sunday, during 10 a.m. Mass

Grades one thru four: Tuesday, 4:30 - 5:45PM

Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 6:30– 8:00 PM.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish office to register.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please submit hardcopy and/or e-mail by 4 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088

Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



HOUSE OF CHARITY
BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

We help our neighbors.....when we spiritually care for hospitalized patients

Your *House of Charity* gift helps our VITALity Catholic Healthcare Services specifically through their Hospital Chaplaincy Program where they provide spiritual and emotional support to hospitalized patients, their families and the staff of the hospitals served in South Jersey.

"Who is My Neighbor?"

Support the 2020 **House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal**

www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

Your gift matters to your neighbor.

St. Thomas More Parish Goal :

\$120,246.57

To date we have received \$ 53,043 which is 44.1% of our goal from 106 pledges and donations.

The collection from **March 15, 2020 was \$ 5,461 from 102 donations.** We thank you for your generosity to our parish.



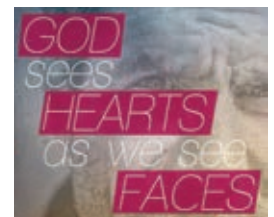
"... if My people, who are called by My Name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me and stop their evil ways, I will heal their land." 2nd Chronicles 7: 14

Stewardship Corner: Fourth Sunday of Lent

True Stewardship

"Not as man sees, does God see, because man sees the appearance, but God looks into the heart." 1st Samuel 16:7

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, car, and other marks of distinction.



But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our heart to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent, and treasure to live **Stewardship** here on earth.



A Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

From America Magazine

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 22, 2020



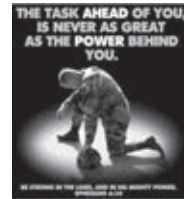
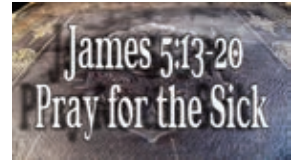
ALL SESSIONS, ACTIVITIES AND ANYTHING CONNECTED WITH REL. EDUCATION/FORMATION IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. As for the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.... They will be celebrated whenever the present circumstances (which are beyond our control) are lifted. One thing we all can, may, should and must do is PRAY, PRAY AND PRAY SOME MORE. Let us not take it out on God, for we don't really know the full origins of this. But it is a way for the whole world to see how we are interconnected, not only through technology but through human contact as individuals, families, towns, states, countries and continents We indeed are "ONE family of GOD". We can make the effort to get along or choose not to with more or less unpredictable distressing consequences. Let us invite the children to express their own prayer freely, so they may reveal what is going on in their own heart. We then can help them through their own sense of uncertainty and fear. "Heavenly Father, free us from the scourge of this health crisis, and may we be forever grateful for all your love and generous presence in and among us. Amen



Papal Intentions for the Month of March: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, GERALYN Coticone, John Coticone, Mary Cowan, Margaret Crawford, Catherine Diana, Angelo DiGiacomo, Chuck Goodwin, Thomas Handler, Dick Haughwout, Raffelina Iannelli, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Ron Kramer, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, John Minot, Arleen Pajic, Tom Pajic, Fred Petrone, Tina Petrone, Joseph Ryan, Frank Sabatino, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Jim Tobin, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

2nd Lieutenant Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Captain Anthony R. Cosentino, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lily Hutchinson, USN, Petty Officer 3rd class; Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, Senior Airman Kris Knaup, 1st Lt. Christopher M. Mawn, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin

CANCELLED!

- All Religious Education Activities until further notice
- Food Pantry Mall Walk
- iRace4Vocations
- FaithFULL Food Drive
- Consolation Ministry
- Liturgy of the Word for Children
- Stations of the Cross
- Regional Penance
- Finance Council Meeting
- Taize Prayer
- All Liturgical Ministry Meetings
- Easter Egg Hunt



Meet Maria Ana

Maria Ana and her brothers receive one meal a day at school, so that they can focus on achieving their dreams. How was education important for your future? How can you, we ensure that all young people have a chance to be educated?

Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
Linda Van Name
(Beverly De Masi's sister)**



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR ROGER

As directed by Bishop Sullivan on March 16, Saint Thomas More Parish will comply with the directives and guidelines of New Jersey Governor Murphy to implement procedures to mitigate the coronavirus pandemic.

Since gatherings of people risk the spread of the virus, any gatherings of more than 50 people may not take place and gatherings of more than 10 are not advisable. **With an abundance of pastoral caution, Bishop Sullivan has suspended the public celebration of all Sunday and weekday Masses for the foreseeable future. (Please note that Msgr. Roger will celebrate Mass privately every day for the intentions that have been scheduled.)** We are exploring ways in which we can provide live streaming of these private Masses and will share that information in the near future.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life and, although we cannot gather as a parish community, as individuals we can take time to pray, most especially for the mitigation and end of this viral pandemic.

To provide an opportunity for you to pray, we are scheduling the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church on Sundays from 8:30 AM until Noon, on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM and on Saturday from 9:00 AM until Noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available Saturday morning during the exposition rather than in the afternoon.

Other parish activities (such as Stations of the Cross and council meetings) are also suspended although some (such as Small Christian Community Groups) will meet using telephone or digital technologies in order to maintain safe social distancing.

During this time, it is crucial that we all exercise all these medically recommended actions and that we also look out for one another, especially those who are older or may be medically vulnerable.

We will continue regular communication with you through our parish bulletin, our website, face book and email.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Msgr. Roger



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 22, 2020

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

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 Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29, 2020 - John 11:1-45

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

Commentary:

In the Gospel we see a marvelously dramatic example of the power of God to bring life out of death. The essential message for us is Jesus' pronouncement: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

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: Is the "abortion pill" safe? NO! Any chemical that is strong enough to kill a baby, can certainly affect organs and healthy tissues in the mother. It can also affect the mother psychologically

when she one day realizes she was the direct instrument of her baby's death. For the love of God and His babies, choose life!

Be considerate of others:

Being a welcoming, hospitable parish takes work. Yet, when every member of that parish takes responsibility and does their part, a church really does feel welcoming to that new parishioner, visitor or stranger. Most of all, it is an imperative of our faith to be welcoming. **One way of being welcoming is by not sitting on the end of the pew making it necessary for parishioners to crawl over you.** It is caring and welcoming to move into the center of the pew as the Church starts to fill up. Yes, everyone sort of has "their" spot, the place they like to sit. But, honestly, does it make any difference? You hear the same homily if you're sitting in the middle of the pew or on the end. Only those with legitimate health issues need to sit at the end of the pew. If you can, though, move over and do so graciously.



What does the US Conference of Catholic Bishops say about Dreamers: Dreamers are young people who were brought to the US without

authorization as children. These youth have grown up in our country, some even choosing to put their lives on the line to serve in our armed forces. They truly exemplify the extraordinary contributions that immigrants can provide to our nation. It is both our moral duty and, in our nation's best interest to protect these youth and allow them to reach their God-given potential.

Bishop Dorsonville, Chairman of the U.S. bishops' migration committee, said "We follow the teaching of the Gospel, and in his own life and work, Jesus identified himself with newcomers and with other marginalized persons in a special way: 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' Dreamers are our neighbors, parishioners, and, most importantly, fellow children of God."



RESCHEDULED

**St. Thomas More Progressive Dinner:
NEW DATE is October 18, 2020.**



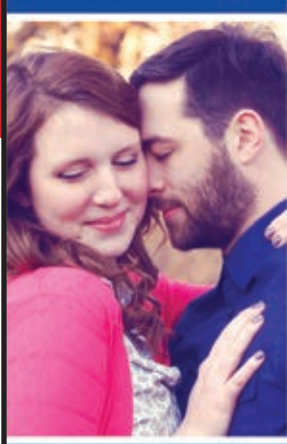
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Message and data rates may apply.

What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson



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