St. Thomas More Church

1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003 856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411

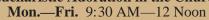
Web Site: http://stthomasmorenj.org/ • E-mail: sthomasmore@comcast.net

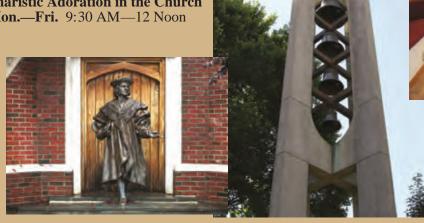
Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Mon. - Sat.9:00 AM in the

Church Sat. 4:30 PM Sun. 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Church







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

Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration



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

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership			Worship	Ciatan Ann Dryman	424-3212
Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin		Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes Pat Maggart	424-3212
	Henry Glover		Church Environment	Committee	
Christian Life/Education			Ch. Art Environment	Committee	
Bereavement	Staff	424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers	Sr. Ann Byrnes	424-3212
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	344-7454	Lectors	Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes	100 5015
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	912-7078	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	428-7217 428-2412
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212	Sacristans	Greta Tyrrell Dom Sacca	420-2412
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217		Pat Maggart	
Knights of Columbus	C			Dave Bongiovanni	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	795-1160	I I -1	Joe Centonze	
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	424-3212	Ushers Social Development	Chico Febus	
Prayer Shawls	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Respect Life	Staff			Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212	Funsters (over 50 club)	Lin Lyon	795-4396
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053	Parish Festival Women's Club	Committee Barbara Cerquitella	424-3212 795-7323
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		Women's Club	Lorraine Kennedy	489-0031
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073		Lorranic Heimeay	107 0031
St. Vincent de Paul			Administration		
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212	House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Welcoming Team	Shirley Kane	424-8022	Parish Finance Council Parish Pastoral Council	Robert Crawford Marie Enny	424-3212 751-8893
Total Touri		.2.0022	arisir rastoral Council	With Chiny	751-0075

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—10:50 AM

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish office to register. Registration forms are available on our Web Site.

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



We were especially joyful to see our parish family during Holy Week! Now as we go forward into the Easter Season, we also welcome our visitors as we come together to encounter Christ in the Eucharist! Gathered as the Body of Christ for the Eucharist we long to receive, we honor the sacredness of each other by continuing to thoughtfully follow safety protocols. While we greet each other in peace with loving waves from afar, receive Holy Communion in the care and concern of social distance, and exit Mass in fellowship without congregating, let us remember we are always joined in togetherness through, with, and in our triune God, no matter how physically apart we must remain! Peace be with you!

Divine Mercy Sunday

"What is mercy if not the boundless love of God, who confronted with human sin, restrains the sentiment of severe justice and, allowing Himself to be moved by the wretchedness of His creatures, spurs Himself to the total gift of self, in the Son's cross ...?

Who can say that he is free from sin and does not need God's mercy? As people of this restless time of ours, wavering between the emptiness of self-exaltation and the humiliation of despair, we have a greater need than ever for a regenerating experience of mercy."

—St. Pope John Paul II, *Regina caeli* message, April 10, 1994

"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



Stewardship Corner: April 11, 2021 Stewardship Sharing Divine Mercy Sunday

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own..." - ACTS 4:32

All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your life, your talents and your money – these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything. We are merely "Stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with. We are called to be grateful and generous with all of our gifts for the benefit of others.

From the Pastor's Desk



Divine Mercy Sunday

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Easter!

We continue in the octave of Easter. A single day is not enough to celebrate this great solemnity. The Church gives us eight days and then an entire Easter season to rejoice in the Risen Lord. *Alleluia!* This final day of the octave has been designated **Divine Mercy Sunday**.

Sister (now Saint) Maria Faustina Kowalska, a young uneducated nun, lived in Poland from 1905 until her death in 1938. Baptized *Helena*, she was the third of ten children. She entered the *Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy* just prior to her 20th birthday. She had only three years of formal education at the time. During her thirteen years in the convent, she worked as a cook, gardener and porter.

At the same time, Sr. Faustina heard an inner voice speaking to her. She wrote down the messages which she said were given to her by Jesus into her notebooks. The compilation of notebooks was eventually published as *The Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska (Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul)*. The content of these notebooks centered on God's **Divine Mercy**. Sr. Faustina described how Jesus gave her the task of "Secretary" of His Divine Mercy.

According to the *Divine Mercy website* (thedivinemercy.org):

The years Sr. Faustina spent at the convent were filled with extraordinary gifts, such as revelations, visions, hidden stigmata, participation in the Passion of the Lord, the gift of bilocation, the reading of human souls, the gift of prophecy, and the rare gift of mystical engagement and marriage.

At the time of her canonization in the year 2000 by Pope (now Saint) John Paul II, he also declared the Sunday after Easter **Divine Mercy Sunday** for the Universal Church. Sr. Faustina described Jesus speaking to her about this day in her dairy:

On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. (Diary of Saint Faustina, 699)

I realize we are living under some very unusual conditions at this time in history with the coronavirus pandemic. I suggest that we all intend *now* to make a sacramental confession as soon as possible when we are able to see a priest <u>personally</u>. Sacraments are administered *person to person* and not remotely by phone, by TV or by the internet. These are only stop-gap solutions. In the meantime, continue to pray the <u>act of contrition</u> as <u>perfectly</u> as possible each day.

There is a very important spiritual lesson for us here: time and opportunity will run out for all of us. We will not live forever. If we want to experience God's Divine Mercy, we have first to admit our guilt and acknowledge our sins to Him through the instrument of the priest—as Jesus instructed His apostles (see Jn. 20:23).

Place your trust where we can have absolute certainty of God's Divine Mercy: Jesus, I trust in Thee!

Fr. Ed Namiotka Pastor

Ministry Schedule for April 17/18, 2021

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Joanne/Choir Julie	Sr. Agnes	K. McFadden
8:30AM	Fr. Namiotka	Becca Julie	K. Glover	F. Eggles
11:00AM	Fr. Namiotka	Becca Julie	M. Garber	M. Dwyer



As we come closer to May 2 and First Communion, we teach our children about JESUS' "real presence" in the Eucharist. But today, many of our own Catholics are doubting the "Real Presence" of JESUS as if it were a matter of personal opinion that one can hold. Actually, it no matter for personal opinion but a matter of Faith. Here is an article that appeared on Northwest Catholic Magazine- Oct. 2016 by Fr. Cal Christiansen. "When the disciples sat down with Jesus at the Last Supper, they were preparing to celebrate the Jewish Passover with him. Jesus, however, had something more in mind. "While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, 'Take and eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26-28) Something happened at that last meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples, something that had never happened before: Ordinary bread and wine were transformed into the body and blood of Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. I'm sure the disciples didn't fully understand what had just happened, nor what would happen when they went on to celebrate "Last Suppers" with the early Christian community. Yet they believed and had faith in the Lord's words, even though they didn't fully understand them. For Catholics today, not much has changed. We believe that at every Mass, bread and wine become Jesus — his body, blood, soul and divinity — even though we can't fully understand how it happens. The miracle of the Eucharist is a mystery, something that human reason and intelligence can never fully grasp. However, our Catholic faith is a reasonable one, and we can't simply leave this mystery a complete mystery; we have to do our best to make sense of it, albeit incompletely. This is why transubstantiation is such an important term for us to understand in explaining to others what we believe about the Eucharist. Transubstantiation is a Scholastic term that attempts to explain how bread and wine can become the body and blood of the Lord without losing their exterior appearance. (Cont. next week)



Cherry Hill Food Pantry 2021 Fundraiser Raffle tickets \$10 each Drawing: April 12th 6:00 PM Facebook Live

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A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a virtual weekend on zoom. The date is Apr 30-May 2, 2021. Call 609-741-8012 for information or





UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In re The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey Case No. 20-21257 (JNP)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on October 1, 2020, The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, (the "<u>Diocese</u>") filed for protection under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code.

The Bankruptcy Court has established June 30, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "<u>Bar Date</u>"). If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, <u>a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese</u>, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date with Prime Clerk, the appointed Claims Agent.

Please visit https://cases.primeclerk.com/camdendiocese or call 877-465-8420 (Toll-Free) or 347-817-4096 (Local) for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.



SATURDAY, APRIL 10

9:00 AM Living & Deceased members of the Parish Special Intentions

4:30 PM Bill Kane r/b family

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

8:30AM James & Susan Quaranto r/b son, James 11:00 AM Angelo Di Giacomo r/b Joyce De Michele MONDAY, APRIL 12

9:00AM Vincent John Tyrrell r/b family 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

9:00AM Sr. Helen Therese Gestautas r/b Marian Kapischke

9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

9:00AM Reggie Kramer r/b Gerri Boyle 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

9:00 AM Martin Gestautas r/b Marian Kapischke :30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

9:00 AM Happy Birthday Richard Tyrrell r/b family

9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the parish Jim Bones r/b Teri

4:30 PM Frank Villone r/b Diana Marandola

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

8:30AM Gary Scarpa

r/b Vince & Emilia Marchesani

11:00AM Mary Anne Bones r/b Joyce De Michele

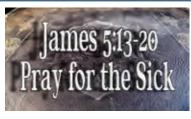
Please pray for the repose of the soul of James Tobin



Pope Francis' April Prayer Intention: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes, and even democracies in crisis.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano,



Elva Clark, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Geralyn Coticone, John Coticone, Mary Cowan, Pasquale De Mone, Catherine Diana, Chuck Goodwin, Dick Haughwout, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, Arleen Pajic, Tom Pajic, Fred Petrone, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravaena, Joseph Ryan, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner, Deacon Michael Welsh.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES... Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Captain Anthony R. Cosentino, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lily Hutchinson, USN, Petty Officer 3rd class; Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Lt. Christopher Mawn, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt.

Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin



"To see faces of hope, you just need to look around you, especially now."

- Kathy Walters, House of Charity Volunteer at St. Joseph, Sea Isle

Your *House of Charity* gift supports Ministry with the Deaf and Persons with Disabilities: This essential ministry nurtures and assists those facing special physical challenges, which affect their access to the sacramental life of the Church and the support of our community of faith.

We are all Faces of Hope.

Donation Cards are available at the exit doors of the Church.

St. Thomas More Parish goal for 2021 is \$89,700. We have received \$34,267.00 in donations and pledges from 89 donors. This is 38.2% of our goal. With your help, we can do this! We thank everyone for your contributions.

Please let us know if you have made your contributions directly to the Diocese or online so we may include your donation in our total.

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 Third Sunday of Easter, April 18, 2021 - Luke 24:35-48 "... Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

Commentary: In today's Gospel, Jesus appears among the disciples. Even though they have heard that he appeared to Simon and to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, they think he is a ghost. At Jesus' invitation to touch him, to look at his wounds, they are filled with joy, but they do not completely believe. Only his eating in their presence convinces them that he is indeed the risen Lord. As he had done on the road, he opens their minds to the Scriptures. After he has done this, he sends them to share the Good News with others.

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: If you don't stand for

something, you will fall for anything. Stand up and speak out for life. One man or woman with courage can have a positive effect on the future of our nation.

Sundays at 11:00 AM



SAVE THE DATE: HOLY EUCHARIST GOLF OUTING will be held at *Medford Village Country Club*, 28 Golf View Drive, Medford, New Jersey on Monday, May 24th. All activities are outside with appropriate distancing. Fee \$175 Individual Player/Dinner only \$50 ~ don't miss the fun! Contact Steve Dumser 609-707-4273 for more info.

"Journeying Through Grief"

St. Thomas More Ministry of Consolation If you have experienced a recent death of a loved one, come find comfort from others who are also dealing with grief. We are continuing our meetings via Zoom with telephone call-ins as an option. Please Contact Ann Marie Lento: 856-344-7454; Marian

Kapischke: 856-424-2053 helloducks@verizon.net;

Jon Lisitski: 856:210-6466.



Reduce Your Food Waste

40% of all food in the US goes to waste and food production is responsible for 37% of global **greenhouse gas emissions**. Using food more wisely is a quick and easy way for you to personally address climate change. Do your part by taking these three simple actions.

- 1. BUY ONLY WHAT YOU NEED
- 2. STORE IT RIGHT
- 3. READ THE LABEL



There is no question that these past twelve months have been a time of unprecedented struggle. It is in these times that our community needs to come together the most. We are proud to say that our Cherry Hill

Knights of Columbus Council 6173 has continued to operate, serving the community in this time of need. Our virtual meetings provide brothers the opportunity to communicate and be involved with our efforts in the community even if they are currently unable to leave their homes.

If you are interested in learning more about our council or looking for a way to be involved in the Cherry Hill community, visit our Facebook page "Cherry Hill Knights of Columbus 6173" If you would like to take part in this years free membership program please reach out to Doug George at dgeorge1213@comcast.net



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TODAY!

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