

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

Sat. 4:30 PM

Sun. 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel

Mon.—Fri. 9:30 AM—12 Noon



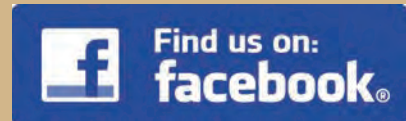
Rite of Reconciliation Saturday

3:00—4:00 PM

In the Chapel

First Fridays after the 9:00 AM Mass

Father Edward Namioika, 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

Parish Trustees
Jeannine Mc Menamin
Henry Glover

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement Staff 424-3212
Consolation Ministry Ann Marie Lento 344-7454
Jon Llisitski jonll1@comcast.net
Faith & Justice Team Chris Bäckstrom 912-7078
Hospital Visitors Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212
Intercessory Prayer Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Knights of Columbus Doug George 609-313-3321
Marriage Formation Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 795-1160
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sr. Clare Sabini 424-3212
Prayer Shawl Ministry Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Respect Life Staff
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
Rosary Ministry Marian Kapischke 424-2053
Small Christian Comm. Sr. Ann Byrnes
Spiritual Retreats John Galati 428-7073
St. Vincent de Paul
Stewardship Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
Welcoming Team Shirley Kane 424-8022

Worship

Altar Servers
Church Environment
Ch. Art Environment
Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Linen Committee
Sacristans

Ushers

Social Development
Bridge Groups

Funsters (over 50 club)
Parish Festival
Women's Club

Administration

House of Charity
Parish Finance Council
Parish Pastoral Council

Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
Committee
Committee
Sr. Ann Byrnes 424-3212
Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes
Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
Dom Sacca
Dave Bongiovanni
Joe Centonze
Chico Febus
Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
Lin Lyon 795-4396
Committee 424-3212
Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031
Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
Robert Crawford 424-3212
Marie Enny 751-8893

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 8, 2022

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



God of Love

We thank you for the gift of our mothers,
Who guide us on life's journey,
Who teach us how to pray to you,
Who listen and cry with us,
Who applaud our progress and laugh with us.,
Who want the best for us and dream with us,
Who have forgiving hearts and love us always.
Bless and care for our mothers.
May they be cherished and beloved,
Not just on Mothers' Day, but every day.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ,
who loved His mother very much.

Your Tithes and Offerings



The Collection for May 1, 2022
\$6247 from 96 donations
2161 from 32 donations
\$8408 total offering

Your consistent generosity to our parish enables us to maintain and improve our parish programs and buildings. Thank 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*



Stewardship Corner: 4th Sunday of Easter
Joyful Stewardship

“The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.” (ACTS 13:52)



The disciples heard Our Lord's call and were able to spread the Gospel message with strength and vitality. We, too, can experience that same joy if we make room for the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts. When we live Stewardship by using our gifts in the way that God intends, He fills us with supernatural joy. A joy that others notice and are attracted to!



From the Pastor's Desk My "Mom" Song

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day!

I want to tell you about a **song** I had written about 10 years ago. Please indulge me for a moment while I familiarize you with the details.

Each month, when I have a day or two off, I try to spend some time with my mother at her condo at the Jersey shore. She and I have grown rather close over the years, especially since the passing of my father in 1995. We have vacationed together, enjoyed many dinners and shows *out and about*, and simply talk about *everything and anything*.

While I was visiting *mom* one Tuesday afternoon, my sister arrived at my mom's home with her youngest son. He was cranky after just getting up from a nap and I watched as *Cathy* held him, tried to cheer him up and simply gave him her time and attention. The moment was priceless as I looked at the young mom (my sister Cathy) take care of her then *two year old* and the slightly older mom spend her time with her then *fifty-two year old* son.

On the way back to my rectory I thought about the experience and I wanted somehow to capture this moment. I also thought of a very special image of a *Mother* to me—the icon of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**. I give a brief description of the icon's meaning:

It represents the Mother of God holding the Divine Child while the Archangels Michael and Gabriel are presenting Him the instruments of His Passion His passion is represented by angels holding instruments of His passion, most often the cross, the lance, the sponge, and the nails. . . . The Child Jesus is shown with an adult face and a high brow, indicating His divine Mind of infinite intelligence. As God, He knew that the angelic apparition was prophetic of His future passion. Yet in His human nature as a small child, He is frightened and runs to His Mother for protection. Our Lady hastily picks Him up and clasps Him to her bosom. This action is indicated by the fact that the Lord's right foot is nervously curled about the left ankle and in such haste that His right sandal has become loosened and hangs by a single strap. Further action is indicated by the way the Child Jesus clasps His Mother's right hand with both of His, holding tightly to Our Lady's thumb. (*Catholic News Agency*)

A **song** began to come to my mind while driving in my car with a simple melody and lyrics that I thought just about anyone could sing—especially a young child. When I arrived at my rectory, I put my words to paper and sang the basic tune into my smart phone, using an app that I had on my phone for recording messages and talks.

I employed the help of my long-time friend **Julie Linn**, who was the music/choir director and vocalist from my former parish (and now, once again, holds that position here at *St. Thomas More Parish*). With **Scott Armato**, whose creative genius was responsible for the piano accompaniment and harmonies, the song "**Mom**" took its current shape. It was sung by select children (now grown) from five different schools combined into a single choir, we called **Pure Jerzy Kidz**. The students came from five South Jersey schools: Edgerton Christian Academy, Newfield; Cleary Elementary School, Buena; Main Road School, Franklinville; St. Joseph's Regional School, Somers Point; and Joy D. Miller School, Egg Harbor Township.

The song is meant to honor **all moms** with the inspiration coming from **three moms in particular**: my own mother, my sister *Cathy* and *Mary, the Mother of God*. The song is available on *iTunes*, *Amazon*, and other digital music stores. It is also available as a **CD single**. In addition, a music video can be found on *YouTube*.

Fr. Ed Namiootka, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 8, 2022

Ministry Schedule for May 14/15

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	Sr. Sophia	K. McFadden	R. Cepeda
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Julie	K. Glover	D. Mayfield	T. Kenny E. Bresani
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Erin/Choir Julie	J. Galati	L. Galati	L.& G. Hutchinson S. Andino



Best Wishes to all the Mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, guardian mothers, step and half mothers, all those who help children to grow in faith and in the love of JESUS. Being a MOTHER is putting all the motherly affection into action, and the best Womanly characteristic of nurturing, guiding, loving. Let us pray for those mothers throughout the world who cannot do more to care for their children because of war, poverty, being refugee, being ill. Let us help with prayer and in any way we can. Let us most especially HONOR our mothers, recognizing their place in our lives.

We congratulate our Children who made their First Holy Communion this past Sunday, May 1st. Some children could not wait to be able to come to Mass and receive with their family. Parents, nurture your children's desire to receive JESUS in the Eucharist at MASS. Let us imagine JESUS being present in front of us, we are having a conversation with HIM.... Imagine how he would agree with some of our own reasoning or excuses. He wants so much to be a part of our life SACRAMENTALLY, IN THE EUCHARIST, AND BEING A PART OF OUR LIFE IN A REAL SENSE. What would we be willing to trade for that? As Catholics, we believe in the Real Presence, JESUS' own body, not just a symbol, or a spiritual presence. We take JESUS' words seriously: "This is my Body, this is my Blood given up for YOU. Whenever you do this, do it in memory of ME." AMEN

**Mia Filandro
Maura Flynn
Jackson Hayden**

**Samantha Mackey
Maximilian Pastula
Daniel Witts**



Katie Witts and Sister Claire are pictured with our First Communicants. Congratulations on this very special day!!



May 14 @ 10:30 am - 11:30 am EDT

The Ordination Mass will be held at Saint Agnes Church, Our Lady of Hope Parish in Blackwood.
In-person attendance is limited to invited family, friends and clergy.

All are welcome to watch and pray together via livestream on our diocesan social media channels:

<https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfCamden>

<https://www.youtube.com/camdendiocese>

<https://twitter.com/camdendiocese>

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 8, 2022



SATURDAY, MAY 7

4:30 PM Jim Tobin r/b Jim Tobin

SUNDAY, MAY 8

8:30 AM Mothers Day Intentions
11:00 AM Mothers Day Intentions

MONDAY, MAY 9

9:00AM Don Kreal r/b Tobin family
9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration
in the Chapel

TUESDAY, MAY 10

9:00AM Don Kreal r/b Bob & Ann Marie Lento
9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration
in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

9:00AM Don Kreal r/b Toni & Joe Andraka
9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration
in the Chapel

THURSDAY, MAY 12

9:00 AM Don Kreal r/b Mike & Helen Hawksley
9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration
in the Chapel

FRIDAY, MAY 13

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

SATURDAY, MAY 14

4:30 PM Gayle Beaney Clower r/b family

SUNDAY, MAY 15

8:30AM Don Kreal r/b Al & Florisa Casarina
11:00AM Gloria De Tato r/b Jeannine

**PLEASE REMEMBER
IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

THE SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Jean Haines, Maureen Howe, Audrey Johnson, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Marie Manalo, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, 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 Knap, Lt. Christopher Mawn, Lt. (j.g.) Jacqueline A. McCabe, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Rimbaugh, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin, SPC Nicole Williams, and *all those serving our country in the armed forces.*

House of Charity 2022 "From Many...One Body"

When our parish collects its goal amount, up to 10% is returned to our parish for our local charitable needs. Additionally, 75% of all funds received above our parish goal will also be returned to our local parish to foster our charitable and ministerial work. This year **St. Thomas More Parish goal is \$89,700. To date we have raised \$48,896 which is 52.3% of our goal.** Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of your contribution for this year.

St. Thomas More Consolation Ministry
"Journeying Through Grief"

Contact: Contact Ann Marie Lento 856-344-7454 ;rlento05@comcast.net or Jon Lisitski 856-210-6466 jonll1@comcast.net for more information.

Upcoming meetings scheduled for: **May 26 at 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall.** *By embracing the pain, by looking into it and beyond it, I have come to see God's presence even in the worst situations. Joseph, Cardinal, Bernardin*

Pope Francis' MAY Prayer Intentions

For faith-filled young people

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.



Please pray for the repose of the soul
of:
Emelia Marchesani

Knights of Columbus Recruitment Drive, May 14/15 at the Church doors. Questions about the Knights? Members will be available to answer them after all Masses next weekend.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 8, 2022

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 Easter, May 15, 2022 – John 13: 31-33a, 34-35

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Commentary:

There are many examples in the Bible of farewell speeches. They always include leaving a farewell gift. Jesus addressed his disciples as "my children," like a father would on his deathbed. Jesus' gift is the commandment to "love one another." This is the key to eternal happiness. "Love your neighbor as yourself" had been around for a long time. There was something new in Jesus' command. **They were to love each other as Jesus loves.** It is to be a totally selfless love. Jesus' death on the cross is the highest expression of his love. It is this love which identifies the disciples with Jesus. **What we believe, how we behave and worship must be motivated by his command to "love one another" as he loves us.** This is the necessary mark of a truly Christian community.

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: ... Motherhood then becomes a kind of priesthood. She brings God to man by preparing the flesh in which the soul will be implanted; she brings man to God in offering the child back again to the Creator.. She is nature's constant challenge to death, the bearer of cosmic plenitude, the herald of eternal realities, God's great cooperator. *Venerable Fulton J. Sheen*

Memorial Day Mass Schedule Remembering Those Who Have Served and Who Have Gone Before Us

Memorial Day Masses are held in most of our Catholic Cemeteries to honor those who have served our country and paid with the ultimate sacrifice. For a complete listing of locations and times, please visit us at

SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org.



"I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God, is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



Gun Violence Facts and Figures

36, 000 Americans are killed by guns each year—an average of 100 people per day. Another 100, 000 Americans are shot and injured each year. (Giffords Law Center)

58% of American adults or someone they care for has experienced gun violence in their lifetime. (Everytown Research)

The US is #1– has the most guns per capita in the world: 120 guns for every 100 citizens.

The US has 1, 073, 743 arms that are registered and 392,273,257 that are not registered. (Small Arms Survey)

Surrender and Let God Work A Retreat for Young Adults May 19th –20th, 2022

Blue Army Shrine 674 Mountain View Road
E. Asbury, NJ 08802

Led by The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal
The retreat is open to young adults 18—25. It will run
from Thursday evening into Friday evening.
To register:856-381-5410 or tessap@verizon.net



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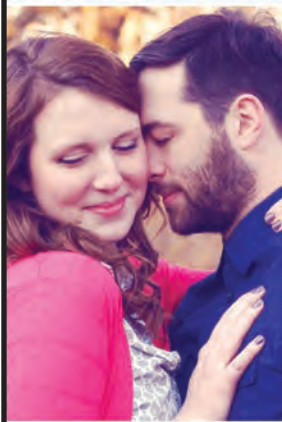


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