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	G: A D	10.1.0010
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	428-7217
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	912-7078	Linen Committee Sacristans	Ann Vigrass Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212	Sucrisums	Dom Sacca	720 2712
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217		Pat Maggart	
Knights of Columbus	Doug George	609-313-3321		Dave Bongiovanni	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	795-1160	Ushers	Joe Centonze Chico Febus	
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	424-3212	Social Development	Cinco i cous	
Prayer Shawls	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Respect Life	Staff		F	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212	Funsters (over 50 club) Parish Festival	Lin Lyon Committee	795-4396 424-3212
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	424-2053	Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes			Lorraine Kennedy	489-0031
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073	A.T. * *		
St. Vincent de Paul			Administration House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212	Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	424-3212
Welcoming Team	Shirley Kane	424-8022	Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	751-8893

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



I Have A Mission

Heavenly Father, You created me
to do some definite service.
Open my eyes that
I may see the needs of others.
Help me to hear Your voice
when You call out to me.
Open my heart
to embrace Your welcoming works
to love one another.
Use me to bring peace, hope, and faith
where they are needed!

Bans of Ordination to the Priesthood

The Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan, D.D., announces that he intends to ordain Mr. Steven Bertonazzi, and Mr. Carlo Santa Teresa to the Sacred Order of Presbyter on Saturday, the 22nd day of May, 2021 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Mary Mother of Mercy Parish in Glassboro, New Jersey.

The faithful of the Diocese of Camden are asked to pray for these men and for the young men of their parish who are being called by God to service in the Church. At the same time, the faithful are obliged to reveal impediments to sacred orders, if they know of any, by contacting their pastor before the ordination in accord with the norms of cc. 1043 and 1051.2 of the Code of Canon Law.

Mary Immaculate, patroness of the Diocese of Camden, intercede for these men and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood here in South Jersey.

"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: Ascension of Our Lord Stewardship Strong

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God." 1st John 4:15

How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to either defend or clarify a question about our Catholic faith, do you do it? Or, do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird? Pray for the courage to be **Stewardship strong** in all circumstances and to joyfully share your witness with others.



From the Pastor's Desk

Preparing for the Holy Spirit

Dear Parishioners,

After His Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and told them: "... You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

As Christians, we first received the **Holy Spirit** when we were *baptized*. In Jerusalem, St. Peter declared to the crowd: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38) St. Paul also reminds us: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?" (1 Cor. 6:19)

In *Confirmation*, the same Holy Spirit is once again given to us. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: "It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost." (#1302)

In Jerusalem after Jesus' Ascension, the apostles were assembled in the upper room as a community. They remained there in **prayer** together with Mary, the mother of Jesus, in preparation for the descent of the Holy Spirit upon them at Pentecost. (See Acts 1:13-14)

Each year we should prepare similarly as we approach **Pentecost** Sunday. The idea of a **novena**—nine consecutive days of prayer—took place in the early Church between **Ascension Thursday** and **Pentecost Sunday**. We should **pray** for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon ourselves, our families, our parish, the Church, our nation, and our entire world. We need the Holy Spirit to guide us, to strengthen us, to protect us and to fill us with His love.

Pray for the *gifts* and *fruits* of the Holy Spirit to fill your lives. The seven *gifts of the Holy Spirit* (See Isaiah 11:2) are *wisdom*, *understanding*, *counsel*, *fortitude*, *knowledge*, *piety*, *and fear of the Lord*. The **fruits of the Holy Spirit**, according to the *Catechism* (#1832), are "perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: 'charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity.'" (Gal. 5:22-23)

Remember that the **Holy Spirit** is a **Person**—the *third Person of the Blessed Trinity*. Sometimes the limited images (tongues of fire, a dove, etc.) used to describe this mysterious **Person** may restrict our thinking and understanding. We should strive to know and truly love this mysterious **Person**. There should be a certain intimate relationship that we establish with the Holy Spirit through prayer.

Begin praying that the Holy Spirit fills the hearts of all believers and enkindles in them the fire of His love more fully!

Fr. Ed Namíotka

Pastor

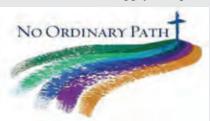
Ministry Schedule for May 22/23, 2021

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Julius Julie	G. Tyrrell	K. McFadden	
8:30AM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	B. Massey	F. Eggles	
11:00AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta/Elena Julie	M. Garber	M. Dwyer	



"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." These are the words that begin the Gospel reading for today, Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord. What can we proclaim if we don't know our faith and if we lack the enthusiasm for it? What if our basket of knowledge is full of "me, myself and I", rather than the message of JESUS? As St. Francis of Assisi would say: "We need to follow our Rule, "Gospel" without personal interpretation". It means we need to take it at face value. In spite of our agonizing over COVD19, we may take the challenge as an opportunity to plan for ourselves a new era of enthusiasm and faithfulness to the GOSPEL. How can we do that? By an examination of our life before, during and after COVID19.

Here is a series of reflective questions to help us turn our corner to a new future, one that we may take fresh from the hands of GOD. Apply the questions to:



My relationship with myself; my relationship with God; my relationship with my family; my relationship with the world. In so doing, also consider what a wise man said:

"There is a very fine line between cowardice and bravery; choose bravery!"

- * What are some things I need to let go of that were burdensome and are of no value any longer or may hold me hostage?
- *What are some things that I need to change in my life and relationship with myself, God, my family and others?
- *What are some new and positive steps I can definitely take responsibility for as I walk on to the new and uncharted territory before me? Cont.



Hats Off!

Congratulations to Eric Thompson (our Live Stream Technician), who graduated from Neumann University with a Master's Degree in Organizational and Strategic Leadership.

If you are graduating, or know of any other graduates who would like to be recognized for their achievement, please contact the Parish Office. We would love to celebrate with you!

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

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 "Bar Date"). If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, 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.

This historic moment of global suffering can actually be a moment of realization that the future can be different, that GOD still believes in humanity, in US and gives us HIS SPIRIT and GRACE. We are builders of a new future for our children. We are all called to Holiness.



SATURDAY, MAY 15

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the parish 4:30 PM Joe Smith r/b Julie & Choir

SUNDAY, MAY 16

8:30AM Judy Bednar r/b Andrea Cirillo 11:00AM Carol Carden Marks

r/b Joanne Wachman

MONDAY, MAY 17

9:00AM Jim Bones r/b Teri

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

TUESDAY, MAY 18

9:00AM Dolores White r/b Joe Ryan & family 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

9:00AM James Logue r/b Amy Osborn 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

THURSDAY, MAY 20

9:00 AM Allan Gale r/b Amy Osborn 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

FRIDAY, MAY 21

9:00 AM Brian & Mary Bones r/b Teri 9:30 AM—12NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

SATURDAY, MAY 22

9:00 AM Living & Deceased members of the Parish Mary Cybery r/b Greta Tyrrell Happy Birthday, Christina & Marie r/b Dom & Marie Sacca

4:30 PM Edward Brown r/b Mark & Liz De Young

SUNDAY, MAY 23

8:30AM Joe Smith r/b Julie & Choir

11:00 AM Jerry McMenamin, Past Grand Knight Cherry Hill Council Knights of Columbus

Pope Francis' May Prayer Intention: Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Looking Ahead!
September 2nd—12th, 2022
Visit Prague*
Budapest* Vienna*
Passion Play of Oberammergau
Hosted by: Fr. Edward Namiotka

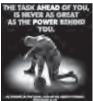
Cost is \$4211 per person from Philadelphia Brochures are at the exit doors of the church.

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, Elizabeth Garber, Marjorie Graham, Chuck Goodwin, Dick Haughwout, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, Fred Petrone, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Joseph Ryan, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Vincent Spaid, 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

St. Thomas More Parish On Line Giving Program It's Simple:

Log on the <u>stthomasmorenj.org</u> web site and click on the Parish Giving logo and follow the easy registration instructions or use the QR code below.

It's Secure:

Parish Giving is PCI compliant and uses the strongest TLS (Transport Layer Security) encryption technology available.

It's Convenient:

No more searching for the check book on Sunday morning stops at the ATM machine.

You can pick the day of the month for the recurring contributions to be processed.

Tax Benefits:

You will be able to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year.

Parish Benefits:

Weekly or monthly contribution choices Significant reduction of parish administrative costs.

If you have questions, you can contact the parish office 856-424-3212 or Parish Giving customer service at 1.866.307.7140

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 Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 20121- John 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Commentary:

Pentecost has popularly and rightly been called the "Birthday of the Church." We greatly reduce the mystery of God's presence, however, if we understand this phrase to refer to the beginning of the institutional church. Pentecost is our birth into new life as a new creation. It is our celebration of being God's redeemed people who now share in the mission of the divine Son through the Spirit. This is the great mystery we celebrate on this festival. Pentecost may be the end of the Easter season, but it is also a celebration of the beginning of our new life in Christ.

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: Statistics show that a soldier's chances of survival in the front lines of combat are greater than the chances of an unborn child avoiding abortion. What should be the safest place to live in America

a mother's womb – is now the most dangerous place. Work and pray to end abortion today. Randy Alcorn



St. Thomas More Parish goal for 2021 is \$89,700. We have received \$51,150.00 in donations and pledges from 116 donors. This 57% 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.



Sundays at 11:00 AM



Save a Life. Contact Congress!!

<u>What:</u> Congress is trying to force Americans to pay for abortion.

<u>How:</u> The Hyde Amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from funding elective abortions for years. Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away these laws that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century.

What happens without these protections: Billions of taxpayer dollars could be used to pay for abortions.

<u>Take Action:</u> Sign the petition to Congress at NoTaxPayerAbortion.com

Link: http://www.notaxpayerabortion.com/

USCCB 2021

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Next upcoming weekend date: Oct. 8-10, 2021. Questions? Need more information? Call our Application Couple at 609-741-8012 or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org

Visit our website wwme-southjersey.org



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