

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

Sunday: LIVE STREAM Mass
11:00 am



Rite of Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:00—4:00 PM

Use Office Door

Please Ring Bell

Msgr. Roger McGrath, Administrator
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



DIRECTORY

<i>Pastoral Leadership</i>			<i>Worship</i>	
Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin Henry Glover		Altar Servers	Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212 Pat Maggart
<i>Christian Life/Education</i>			Church Environment	Committee
Bereavement	Staff	424-3212	Ch. Art Environment	Committee
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	344-7454	Eucharistic Ministers	Sr. Ann Byrnes 424-3212 Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann Byrnes
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212	Lectors	Ann Vigrass 428-7217 Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	Linen Committee	Dom Sacca
Knights of Columbus	David Galloway	609-980 6006	Sacristans	Pat Maggart
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	795-1160		Dave Bongiovanni
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	424-3212		Joe Centonze
Prayer Shawls			Ushers	Chico Febus
	Ann Vigrass	428-7217	<i>Social Development</i>	
Respect Life			Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele 424-4008 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	Committee 424-3212
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323 Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073		
St. Vincent de Paul	Paul Rossi	424-3212	<i>Administration</i>	
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212	House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
			Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford 424-3212
			Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny 751-8893

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER—MAY 17 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

Starting Fall 2020

Grades One thru Eight - Sunday 9:30 AM—10:50 PM

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 4 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088
Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



The observation of the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** is transferred from Thurs., May 21 to Sun., May 24, (*replacing the Seventh Sunday of Easter*).

This transfer is for this year only. This is in light of the dispensations already provided from the obligation to participate in Mass on Sundays and Holydays.



We'll be back together one day welcoming each other before and after mass, but in the meantime, after online mass this Sunday, why not start a video call (via Zoom, Skype, FaceTime, etc.) with someone you would normally chat with

after mass or someone in our parish family whom you haven't talked to as often?

Perhaps your conversation will include...

How has this time been for you?

What are you grateful for lately?

Have you started any new hobbies?

What are you reading or listening to?

How is your family doing?

Do you need help with anything?

How can I pray for you?

Connection with others is so important—especially now. Social distancing doesn't have to mean social isolation. Keep connecting and keep hope alive.

We need each other!

GRATITUDE

Your Parish Community is

GRATEFUL

for your consistent contributions.

Stewardship Corner

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." 1 PETER 3:17

The old line says, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many *Stewards* are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes and we don't get the result that was intended or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times, we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

Fifth Anniversary of Laudato Si



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**PROTECT LIFE.
PRESERVE THAT WHICH
SUSTAINS LIFE.
CARE FOR
OUR COMMON HOME.**

POPE FRANCIS, *Laudato Si'*



Pope Francis's Encyclical is an urgent challenge to protect our common home. This text is of landmark significance in Catholic Social Teaching.

In the introductory section, Francis, following his thirteenth-century namesake, calls the earth our "common home", which is like our sister and our mother. We are forgetting our interconnectedness with the earth and with those around and ahead of us who depend on our good stewardship of the gift of creation.

The encyclical is addressed to not only members of the Church but is a vehicle to "enter into dialogue" with all people who are "united by the same concern".



As Catholics, we are called to:

- uphold life and the dignity of each human person
- support families and future generations
- love the poor and vulnerable
- advocate for basic rights and a just economy
- be in solidarity with all, as one human family
- care for all of God's creation

Grounded in our Catholic Tradition, now is the time to protect the earth for our children and grandchildren.

PRAY to hear God's call to live our faith for the common good, knowing that everything is interconnected.

LEARN how the climate crisis is a profound moral issue greatly affecting the poor and vulnerable.

TELL your local and national leaders to protect creation.

Praise be to you, our Lord, God of all Creation!

Learn more!

usccb.org/environment
wearesaltandlight.org/cst101
catholicclimatecovenant.org

PHOTO: ENJOYER

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER—MAY 17, 2020

We will continue **Live Streaming Mass every Sunday at 11:00 AM Via FACEBOOK live.**

Please join us and invite your friends and family.

You do not need to login to Facebook to view the mass live stream.

When someone who doesn't have a Facebook account clicks on the **FB link** on our website stthomasmorenj.org they will see Log in or create BUT

It may look like you need to create an account, **but you really just need to scroll down and click on the Video link.**

We sincerely *thank* everyone involved from those communicating, producing, serving at the Altar., music, decorating, and especially all of you who participated via your electronics from home. We feel your presence through mutual prayer.

We especially thank parishioner Eric Thompson for his technical expertise, time and effort.



Peace and All Good to YOU "Francis of Assisi" Sometimes I feel like a broken record, (old expression) finding myself repeating the same things. It is hard to come up with new things because, as Scripture says "nothing is new under the sun". Thus, the Holy Spirit is blowing and we need to be aware of the direction we are being led. The problem is that we are not always tapped into the Holy Spirit, so we don't always feel or hear that Presence. To say it bluntly, if we are not led by the Spirit with the capital "S", we are, then, led by another spirit with the small s. Which spirit have we allowed to lead us?

Jesus promises; "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth." As we prepare for the celebration of Pentecost, may we open our hearts as wide as we can to welcome the "Spirit of Truth". The Spirit Advocate will help us and we can be transformed into the person described in the second reading of today, 5th Sunday of Easter, year A. We are at the threshold of a new era. It is at our door, and we can't stop it.

The best preparation we can have is:

"Be open to the HOLY SPIRIT"

Urgent Request for Sewing Samaritans!

Anyone with a willing heart who knows how to sew is needed to make cloth masks for when we are able to open our church doors to welcome back our parish family and visitors for mass.

These masks would be available for anyone who forgets to bring their own. Even if you can make only a few, what a special gesture of "love thy neighbor" your sewing efforts will be! Please indicate your willingness to be a part of this caring sewing ministry as soon as possible

by contacting the parish office (856-424-3212) or stthomasmore@comcast.net.



Although we would normally collect at the Masses on the third weekend of each month, we now have a donation link on the Church's website. OR You can still send checks made payable to the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** (St Thomas More Conference), **1439 Springdale Rd, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.**

Hopefully, this will enable you to continue to contribute. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. Society of St. Vincent de Paul

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER—MAY 17, 2020



SATURDAY, May 16

Living and Deceased Members of
St. Thomas More Parish

SUNDAY, May 17 Live Streaming 11:00 AM

Pat Brink r/b Don Brink
Jim Bones r/b Teri
Dick DeMichele r/b Dr. & Mrs. Alvin
Pressman
Dick DeMichele r/b Stan & Annette
Thompson

MONDAY, May 18

Mother's Day Intentions

TUESDAY, May 19

William Hansen

WEDNESDAY, May 20

Mother's Day Intentions

THURSDAY, May 21

Brian Bones r/b Teri

FRIDAY, May 22

Rev. Msgr. Wm. P. Graham

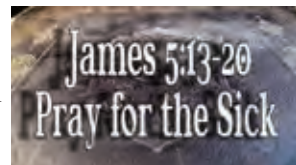
SATURDAY, May 16

Living & deceased members of
St. Thomas More Parish
Mother's Day Intentions

SUNDAY, May 24 Live Streaming 11:00 AM

Dick DeMichele r/b Charles and
Barbara Cerquitella
Matthew D'Vlisse r/b Eileen Kleinz

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, Kathryn Wolfe, Maureen Howe, Olga Erlam.



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.



"Who is My Neighbor?"

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

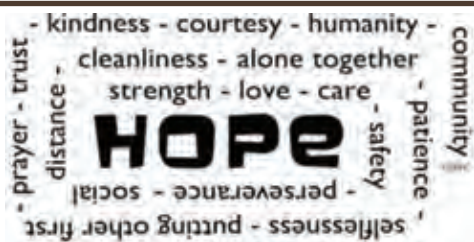
Donations can be mailed to the Parish Office
www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

Your support of the 2020 *House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal* ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching and redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ throughout Southern New Jersey. It allows us to help our neighbors.

Your gift matters to your neighbor.

St. Thomas More Parish Goal : \$120,247.00
To date we have received \$64,793.00 from 130 pledges and donations.

Your Neighbors THANK YOU!



For everyone's sake. Please continue to observe the public health protocols. Be sure to take good care of yourself and your loved ones during the duration of this coronavirus pandemic. Stay home, practice good handwashing, maintaining social distance, wear a mask and care for your own physical and spiritual health. Remember to eat nutritiously, exercise, get your rest and pray regularly.

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER—MAY 17, 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 experience.

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 24, 2020 - John 17:1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began."

Commentary:

When Jesus ascended into heaven, for a moment it must have seemed like the world's saddest day. To have Jesus as your constant companion and friend, only to lose him from view - what could it have been like? Thank heaven the angels appeared and told the disciples to get a grip. Forget attachment to changeable emotions that dart like fish here and there. Hadn't they had enough of that during the long seven days we now call Holy Week? Stop grasping at this day or that hour as if it's the one that gives life meaning or contains the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Jesus didn't come into this world to offer us the tragedy of Good Friday to mourn or the victory of Easter to celebrate. Jesus brought eternity into time, so that we could climb out of time ourselves and be united with him in everlasting life. If the church calendar does anything, it assists us in detaching ourselves from chasing the years and invites us to consider never-ending realities. Knowing Jesus Christ is the first step we take on the threshold of eternity.

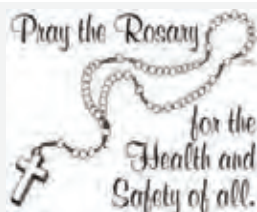
Questions for Reflection and Sharing:

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:

It's easy to love when it's beautiful and perfect. But the real test of our love is to love, respect, and defend ALL human life from beginning to end; young and old, born and unborn. Choose Life



Pope Francis encourages the faithful to pray along with the rosary during the month of May for an end to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

Mass Intentions and Mass Cards

We continue to take your Mass Intention requests for future dates. A nice way to remember your loved ones, living and deceased.

Please email sthomasmore@comcast.net or call the Parish office 856-424-3212 to schedule.



Catholic Charities - Diocese of Camden

bi-monthly food distribution.

Please call as early as possible before the distribution date so they can be prepared with proper amounts for you personal needs.

Please wear a mask

Drive-through pick up. Stay in your car. Staff will place food in your trunk.

No forms are needed
CAMDEN COUNTY

When: May 26
June 9 and 23

Time: 1:30—3:30 PM

Where : 1845 Haddon Ave., Camden

Call to Reserve your pick up time

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request for a sick relative, friend, yourself, or a special intention please email sthomasmore@comcast.net or call the office 856-424-3212 and we will add them to our Prayer Line so others can join you in prayer.



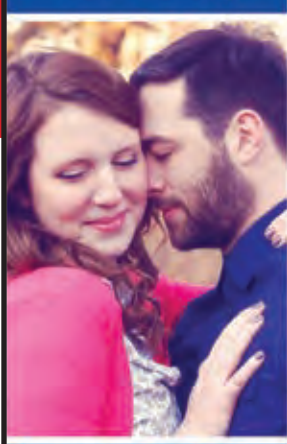
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Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.
 Message and data rates may apply.

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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Protecting You and the People You Love

Bookbinder Law, LLC values our clients well-being as our highest priority. In light of the CDC directives to safeguard one another and our ongoing mission to protect seniors and those with reduced immunity, our firm is currently offering phone and video conferences and accommodations for document signing appointments.



Dana E. Bookbinder

Certified Elder Law Attorney

by the ABA-Approved National Elder Law Foundation

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