

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. - Sat. 9:00 AM in the Church

Sat. 4:30 PM

Sun. 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

Mon.—Fri. 9:30 AM—12 Noon



Rite of Reconciliation Saturday

3:30—4:00 PM
In the Chapel

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

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees
Jeannine Mc Menamin
Henry Glover

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement Staff 424-3212
Consolation Ministry Ann Marie Lento 344-7454
Faith & Justice Team Chris Baeckstrom 912-7078
Hospital Visitors Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212
Intercessory Prayer Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Knights of Columbus Reno Ciccotta
Marriage Formation Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa 795-1160
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sr. Clare Sabini 424-3212
Prayer Shawls 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 Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
Pat Maggart
Committee
Church Environment
Ch. Art Environment
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
Committee 424-3212
Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
Lorraine Kennedy 489-0031

Administration

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 16, 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

Starting Fall 2020

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 4 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

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

Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



The Spirit of Welcoming

“Who am I, that the Mother of our Lord should come to me?” Elizabeth asks.

The Mother of Our Lord seeks to come to us and hopes to find a similar attentive

welcome. She comes to serve us like she served Elizabeth out of love. She desires to bring us her Son to help us leap for joy! In short, Mary encourages us by helping us to become like her Son, so that we welcome His love and friendship in this world and come to experience eternal joy with Him in heaven!

Care for the Common Good

In an epidemic or pandemic, one's actions must take into account the common good.

Basic everyday actions, as recommended by the CDC, include:

- ***Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- ***Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.**
- ***Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.**
- ***Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily, following manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.**
- ***Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**
- ***Choose a room and bathroom in your home that can be used to separate sick household members from those that are healthy.**

“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 will heal their land. 2nd Chronicles 7:14



Stewardship Corner: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewardship Gifts

“For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” - Romans 11:29



God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good **Stewards** by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.



From the Pastor's Desk

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for Us!

Dear Parishioners,

As I began a new calendar year annually, I customarily entrusted and consecrated my parish family (wherever I have been pastor) to the care of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**.

Rather than waiting until the *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God* on New Year's Day, I have decided to make this consecration on the evening of August 15th (the *Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*). I give this parish and all of you, its parishioners, over to the loving care of the **Mother of God**. I can think of no better way to begin my time as pastor here.

In addition, the statue of *Our Lady of Lourdes*, now in the sanctuary, will be officially blessed. My sincere thanks to all who made this statue possible.

Why not take the time to entrust your individual families to the Blessed Virgin Mary's maternal care as well? Parents, you can (and should) pray for your children and families at home *daily*. Here is a prayer of consecration to help:

Prayer of Consecration of the Family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Oh, Mother Most Pure, we come to You as a family and consecrate ourselves to your most Immaculate Heart.

We come to You as a family and place our trust in Your powerful intercession.

Oh, Dearest Mother Mary, teach us as a mother teaches her children, for our souls are soiled and our prayers are weak because of our sinful hearts.

Here we are Dearest Mother, ready to respond to You and follow Your way, for Your way leads us to the heart of Your Son, Jesus.

We are ready to be cleansed and purified.

Come then, Virgin Most Pure, and embrace us with Your motherly mantle.

Make our hearts whiter than snow and as pure as a spring of fresh water.

Teach us to pray, so that our prayers may become more beautiful than the singing of the birds at the break of dawn.

Dear Mother Mary, we entrust to Your Immaculate Heart of hearts, our family and our entire future.

Lead us all to our homeland which is Heaven.

Amen.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

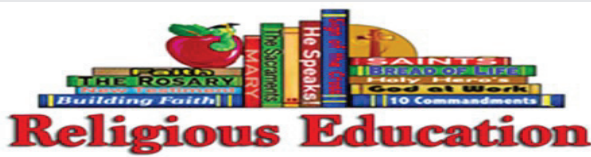
My Masses and prayers are continually offered for your spiritual well-being. Please remember me as well so that I have the graces necessary to live up to my responsibility as your pastor.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 16, 2020

Ministry Schedule for August 22/23

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Erin Eugene	Sr. Sophia	K. McFadden
8:30AM	Fr. Namiotka	Becca Julie	L. Duffy	F. Egges
11:00AM	Fr. Namiotka	Becca Julie	J. Flynn	Sr. Ann



As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, the Gospel of today has Mary proclaiming HER CANTICLE that we also proclaim every day in the Liturgy of the Hours at evening prayer. Let us pray as we try to understand it:

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.. God has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation. The Lord has shown strength with his arm and scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children for ever.” AMEN

“My soul, too, proclaims your goodness to me, Lord, and my spirit wants to rejoice in YOU. You have often looked with favor on my lonely life. I can hardly believe that you are with me and rejoice in my lowliness. I am reminded that human might and strength don't count much. You rejoice in humility, honesty. In the long run, you rejoice with the lonely and provide for their needs. You promised you would do so and you have, in your mysterious way. May I continue to rejoice in you LORD and trust that YOU will continue to provide all I need.” In our lowliness is our greatness, in our weakness is our strength, for when acknowledge and tell God our Father how much we need HIM, it is then that HE comes to us.

Guidelines for who may and who should not come to Mass

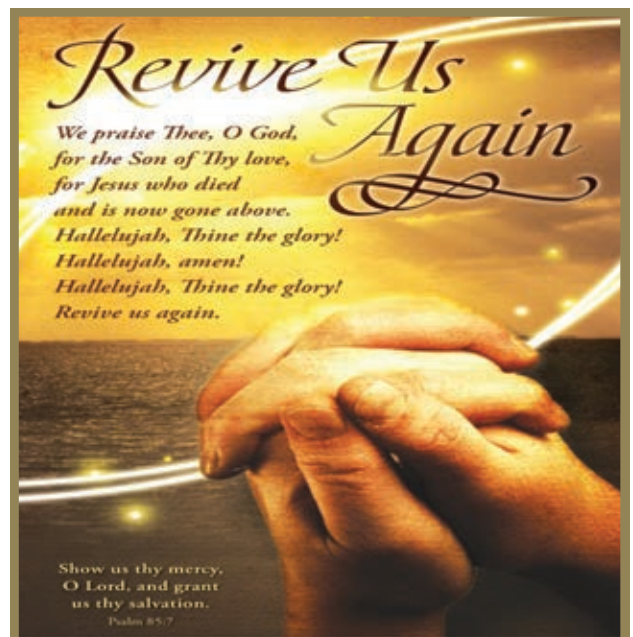
All who can come are most welcome and encouraged to do so.

Bishop Sullivan's dispensation from the obligation to participate in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains in effect for everyone. So, no one need feel obligated to come to Mass.

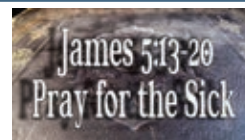
Since seating will be limited, who should stay home?

Anyone who is vulnerable for contracting COVID-19 should stay home. This would include: the **elderly**, anyone with a **medical precondition** such as **diabetes, heart disease or respiratory disease** of any kind, anyone with **mobility difficulties**. **Anyone feeling ill** (under the weather), feverish, achy, or with a cough, etc. should stay home.

The best rule of thumb is that if you have even the slightest hesitation or doubt about whether to come, stay home not only for your own welfare but for that of your fellow parishioners.



TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 16, 2020



SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

9:00AM Living & deceased members of St. Thomas More Parish
4:30PM Leon Palagruto r/b Catherine De Mayo

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

8:30AM Dr. Anthony Cristiano r/b Stan & Annette Thompson
11:00AM Bill Kane r/b family

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

9:00AM Jim Bones r/b Teri
9:30 AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

9:00AM Alberto Librojo r/b Dave & Bec Nilsen & family
9:30 AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

9:00AM Alberto Librojo r/b Christina Castillo
9:30 AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

9:00AM Alberto Librojo r/b wife & family
9:30 AM—12 NOON Eucharistic Adoration in the Church.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

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

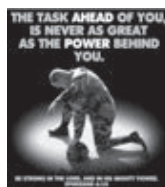
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

9:00 AM Living & Deceased member of the Parish
4:30 PM Pat Brink r/b Don Brink

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

8:30AM Carlos Frederico & Maria Deras Barrientos r/b daughter
11:00AM intentions of Timothy Cyberey r/b Greta & family

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, Margaret Crawford, Catherine Diana, Angelo DiGiacomo, Olga Erlam, Chuck Goodwin, Thomas Handler, Dick Haughwout, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Ron Kramer, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, Arleen Pajic, Tom Pajic, Fred Petrone, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, 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.



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, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin

GUIDELINES for Mass Attendance

- Please enter only by the main doors. Exit as indicated by ushers and point persons.
- Please be prompt. (Everyone should be seated at the time for Mass to begin.) There is a limited number of people allowed at any one time. **No one will be admitted once Mass starts.**
- Please follow the ushers' directions for the reception of Holy Communion, approaching in single file and **maintaining the 6-foot social distance.**
- Please **always maintain the 6-foot social distance, even while exiting the building and in the parking lot.**
- Please always wear your face covering (mask), except when receiving Holy Communion. Do not discard your disposable mask or other items on Church property. Do not leave anything in the pews.

Pope Francis' August Intention: We pray for those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen, and their families.

Join us for *Mass!*
Let us gather and celebrate the Mass. Visit our parish Facebook® page!

11:00 AM Sunday

Please
Out of consideration for our fellow parishioners, please do not discard your disposable items until you get home.
Thank you!

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 16, 2020

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 23, 2020 - Matt. 16:13-20

Jesus said to his disciples, “but who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it...”

Commentary:

The Children can be solidly built only on the person of Jesus. The Church can stand firmly only by faith in Jesus. The Church is a community of disciples which acknowledges that Jesus is “the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God.” Peter’s recognition of Jesus is a revelation from God. Thus, the Church comes into being through divine revelation. The builder of the Church is Jesus himself and the Church is his: “I will build my church” (16:18). The Church is unintelligible apart from the revelation of God and the work of Jesus. These divine origins account for the Church’s ability to withstand the power of the netherworld and death (16:18).

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:

Even the smallest person can change the course of the future. God sends each child into the world with a purpose in His mind and for that reason no baby should be aborted.



“The Power of Love in working for Justice”

On Bloody Sunday, **John Lewis** wore a backpack containing fruit, a tooth brush and two books. Lewis had expected to spend the night reading in jail. Instead, he spent it in the hospital after his skull was fractured from a police beating. He would carry the scars from that beating for the rest of his life. He’d also carry out the rest of his life guided by the principles in the 2 books in his backpack that Sunday, March 7, 1965.

One of the books was “**The Seven Storey Mountain**”, the autobiography of Catholic monk Thomas Merton and his journey to a life in Christ. It was **Christ’s instruction to love thy neighbor that drew Lewis to Martin Luther King’s nonviolent message** which they used to speak up against racial injustice in America.

Lewis’ love filled him with irrepressible happiness despite all that he’d been through. His life is a monument to love. Now that his journey is over, **his life is testimony to the power of love that speaks to all of us.**



Coming Soon!

A **virtual Marriage Encounter experience** designed to:

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- Renew commitment
- All from the comfort of your home in 8 sessions!

Sessions: 8/31; 9/3; 9/8; 9/10; 9/14;

9/17; 9/21; 9/24. All sessions start at 7PM.

To apply go to **WWME.org** or call Marge and Michael Walsh at **609-741-8012**

Please be advised that **Confessions are once again being held in the Chapel on Saturdays from 3:30—4:00 PM.**



“Who is My Neighbor?”

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And, the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Support the 2020 **House of Charity Bishop’s Annual Appeal**
Donations can be mailed to the Parish Office
www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

St. Thomas More Parish Goal : \$120,247.00 We have received \$77, 893.00 in donations and pledges, which is 64.8% of our goal.



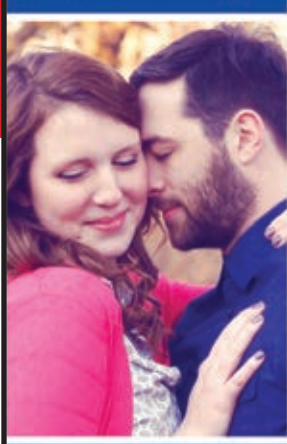
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Message and data rates may apply.

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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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

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