

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

3:00—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
Faith & Justice Team Chris Baeckstrom 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 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 Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
Parish Finance Council Robert Crawford 424-3212
Parish Pastoral Council Marie Enny 751-8893

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

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



Welcome to our church family.

We're glad that you could come.
We're honored to share this day with you, as we
worship God's Risen Son.

We hope that God has touched your life
as we worshipped side by side
and that you leave this place
today with the peace of God
inside.



Updating our Parish Records is an ongoing process. If you have changed any of your contact information please email the parish at stthomasmore@comcast.net or call the office at 856-424-3212

and confirm/update your telephone/cell phone numbers and your email address(es). Thank you for your cooperation. Thanks to those who have responded.

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.

“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: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Faithful Stewardship

“Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?” *JAMES 2:5*

What is more important to a **Steward** – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society tells us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first and experience true joy and peace. When we put possessions first, we soon realize we can never have enough and happiness is fleeting. When we put faith over possessions, we truly realize it is better to give than receive.



From the Pastor

Off to College!

Dear Parishioners,

The end of the summer is the time when **college students** *make their way off to or return back to* their respective chosen schools. I write this week's column with *them* particularly in mind.

There was a funny and curious expression that I heard used in the past about this **rite of passage** or **trek away from home**: *It's time to sow some wild oats!* The idiom basically means *to indulge in a period of irresponsible behavior*. Any parent would be naive not to think that college life holds many temptations and opportunities for sordid experimentation, in addition to the supposed education/learning that should be taking place.

I still believe in the *goodness* of our young adults. I hold that the young people today have some **very unique challenges** that earlier generations never had—accompanied by various **special graces**—as they live in today's world. *Kudos* to those students who study diligently, participate in sports or other activities, and even may work part-time or full time jobs while at college!

I humbly take this time to give you a few words of advice, with my hope that you ponder what I have to say. Like any good **parent** (after all, I am a *spiritual father*), my words are intended with *love and genuine concern* for your well-being:

Remember who you are and where you come from. My father used to tell us “never to do anything that would embarrass the family name.” It was his way of saying that he and my mother tried to instill *certain Christian values* in their children and they expected us to live by them. A sign that I read sums it up perfectly: **Character is who you are, even when no one is watching.** (God, in fact, is always watching!)

Remember that your faith will be tested. Even if you attend a *Catholic* college, there will be times when you will be called to witness to your faith and your faith will, no doubt, be challenged. *Will you make an attempt to attend Mass? Will you try to pray each day for strength and guidance? Will you blindly accept criticisms of the faith from other students and various professors? Will the pressure of your peers lead you to try “forbidden” things or abandon values that you were taught?* When tested, your faith can become **stronger**.

Try to find and to associate with friends having good moral values. Your choice of friends is just that—your choice. It is much easier to live a good, happy life when in the company of like-minded people. *Choose wisely!* Moreover, seek out the **Newman Center** on the college campus and/or become aware of the presence of the *Catholic* chaplain. Other students serious about their faith will, hopefully, be doing the same.

Remember the intended purpose of higher education. You should go to college (and beyond) *to get an education, to prepare for a career and to develop as a better person*. Don't let the experience turn into an overly-expensive party with the potential for some pretty serious consequences!

Don't be afraid to turn to your parents (or someone you trust) when necessary. Even if you do something stupid, realize that your parents are there for you. Their love for you should be constant.

If you ever need someone (*in addition to your parents*) in some time of difficulty or necessity, know that your pastor has *e-mail*, a *web-site* (www.fr-ed-namiotka.com), a **Facebook** account, a **YouTube** channel, a **Twitter** account (and I am considering some other means of social media) and can be reached by the good old telephone! Know, also, that you are remembered in my prayers!

Fr. Ed Namiotka

Pastor

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Ministry Schedule for September 11/12

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Mena Julie	Sr. Sophia	K. Febus	
8:30AM	Fr. Namiotka	Julie	T. Librojo	D. Miller	A. Librojo
11:00AM	Fr. Namiotka	Erin Julie	J. Galati	L. Galati	



We are diligently preparing for the opening of Religious Education 2021-2022.

Is YOUR child registered?

The Religious Education Registration Form is on the Parish website: stthomasmorenj.org. Complete the form and return ASAP.

**HOUSE of CHARITY
FACES of HOPE**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the House of Charity Appeal. To date we have raised **\$85,720 / 95.6%** of our Goal. If you have not made your contribution, please prayerfully consider donating today so we can reach our goal.

***We are so close.
We need your help.***

How does my Parish benefit?

Parishes are direct recipients of the ministries and services supported by the House of Charity. **In addition, any money received and exceeding the parish assigned goal of \$89,700 is returned through a rebate to our parish to use for charitable and ministerial work.**

Cards are at the doors of the church.

- Mail your gift to the Parish Office.
- Drop your gift in the collection basket (marked House of Charity)
- Drop off at the Parish Office during business hours.
- Give online- allows parishioners to send their gifts directly and securely to the House of Charity. The link to House of Charity online giving platform is: <https://bit.ly/HoC-Online>



A Prayer for Students

As I prepare for my studies,
open my mind to knowledge.
Open my ears to the lessons I will hear.

Open my eyes to the wonders I will see.
Open my heart to new experiences and friendships.
Lord, watch over me as I begin each day, eager to learn.

May I proclaim Your love in all that I say and do.
Watch over me and keep me safe.

Help me to be an example to my friends,
and please watch over and guide my teachers,
as they, in turn do for us.

Lord, thank You for all You have given me, and
may You always keep me close to You.

Amen

RCIA: ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- *Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?*
- *Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?*
- *Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?*

RCIA is an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

For more information please contact Sr. Ann at 856-424-3212.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the parish

4:30 PM Jim Tobin r/b Pat & Nick Kirincic

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:30AM Joe Smith r/b Greta Tyrrell

11:00AM Gayle Beaney Clower r/b family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:00AM Mary and Nino Levari

r/b Franciscan Sisters

NO ADORATION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00AM Elizabeth & Clarence Mattioli

r/b Franciscan Sisters

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00AM Frank Krenslak

r/b Greta Tyrrell

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:00 AM Andy Aquino r/b Vince & Angela Corso

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00 AM Terrence Sullivan r/b Tobin family

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 AM Living & Deceased members of the Parish

4:30 PM Jerry McMenamain r/b Jeannine

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

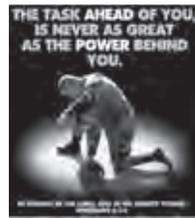
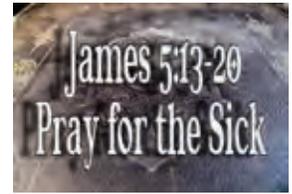
8:30AM Frank Sabatino

r/b Chris & Pat Baeckstrom

11:00 AM Jerry McMenamain 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, GERALYN Coticone, John Coticone, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Elizabeth Garber, Marjorie Graham, Chuck Goodwin, Dick Haughwout, Maureen Howe, Helen Kane, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, Don Kreal, Marie Manalo, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravana, Joseph Ryan, Carlos Santiago, Yun-Yun Shen, Teddy Shaffer, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner.



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Captain Anthony R. Cosentino, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Lt. Christopher Mawn, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Rimbaugh, Lt. Col. James P. Tobin, and *all those serving our country in the armed forces.*

**Anointing of the Sick,
Saturday, September 18, 2021
9:00 AM Mass in the Church.**

**Call the Parish Office
at 424-3212 to register.**

**Names of those receiving the
sacrament need to be recorded.**

Who can be anointed? Those with a chronic illness; the infirm, elderly and homebound; those preparing for surgery; those suffering from psychological/emotional issues, depression, or addiction.



Please pray for the repose of the soul
of :
Fred Petrone

Pope Francis' SEPTEMBER prayer intention: An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



**From Sacred Heart School
to the parishioners of St.
Thomas More:**

Thank you for "the most
generous donation of school
supplies..."

"School supplies are always
needed and will certainly be put to very good use.

With gratitude,
Theresa Banfad and all at SHS.

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 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 12, 2021- Mark 8:27-35

Jesus asked his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ."... Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly...and be killed, and rise after three days... Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

Commentary:

After this scene, there is a turning point in Mark's Gospel. From now on, Jesus will be trying to make the disciples (and us) understand that not only will he suffer and die, but that anyone who wants to be a true follower will have to do the same. As Messiah, Jesus will accept his Father's will, becoming vulnerable and completely powerless at the end. The more we can stand to be vulnerable and powerless in life, the better we will be ready to step across to death. Maybe vulnerability is the "cross" that Jesus, the Messiah, is asking us to bear.

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:

You must remember that some things legally right are not morally right. Abortion and euthanasia are prime examples of this statement. Work and pray to end these atrocities.



MORAL COURAGE

People who are willing to take a stand and speak truth to authority regarding their beliefs and values tend to have some common characteristics.

These include:

- Feeling good about themselves
- The ability to stand up to peer pressure
- Believing in their own views
- Have seen moral courage in action before
- Feeling empathy for others
- Can imagine the world from someone else's perspective
- Have spent time with and gotten to know people from different backgrounds
- Are able to see different minority groups in positive ways
- Are able to argue from reason rather than resorting to emotional tactics such as mocking, bullying & name-calling

Homebound? Not feeling well?



Sundays at 11:00 AM

Pondering an idea for a different gift for a special occasion, birthday, anniversary, memorial remembrance?

Fresh flowers for the altar can be given to honor living and deceased family members. You order the flowers from the florist of your choice, have them delivered to the church on Friday and put in place for the weekend Masses,



where they will remain for the week. Your contribution will be mentioned in the Parish bulletin on the date requested. Call the Parish Office (856-424-3212) to see if the date of your choice is available. All requests scheduled in order received.



Second Collection this weekend Haiti Earthquake Relief

for the humanitarian, long-term recovery, and significant Church needs arising from the recent natural disasters in the past few weeks. We ask that you be generous to this collection.



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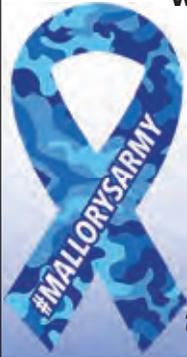
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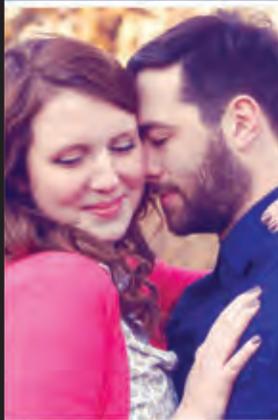
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