

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
 Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
 Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am
 Weekdays:
 Monday-Friday: 6:45 and 9:00 am
 Saturday: 9:00 am
 Holyday Vigil: 7:30 pm
 Holyday: 6:45 & 9:00 am & 7:30 pm



Rite of Reconciliation
 Saturdays: 3:30-4:00 pm
 or any time by appointment

Reverend Phillip M. Johnson, Priest-in-charge
 Reverend Daniel Joyce, S.J., Weekend Assistant
 Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
 Deacon John Harrington
 Pat Maggart, Parish Catechetical Leader
 Roger Pisani, Pastoral Associate for Music & Liturgy
 Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Norma Matos, Parish Secretary
 Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership		Worship	
Parish Trustees	Gary Gadren 424-3212 Pat Lachnicht 424-3212	Altar Servers	Deacon John Harrington 424-3212
Christian Life/Education		Church Environment	Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Bereavement	Sheila Mohan 795-6137	Ch. Art Environment	Antonina Nicdao 751-6320
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers	Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass 428-7217	Lectors	Dolores Kreal 988-0271
Knights of Columbus	Dick Haughwout 429-8598	Linen Committee	Pat Lachnicht 424-5636
Marriage Formation	Bob/Liz Scarpa 795-1160	Sacristans	Ann Vigrass 428-7217
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Pat Maggart 429-6948		Dom Sacca 751-1367
Pastoral Counselor	Claire Spence 428-8325	Ushers	Tom Petrilli 428-2412
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan 795-6137	Music Ministry	Greta Tyrrell 309-1999
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath 779-7130		Frank Krenslak 609-488-0020
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Deacon John Harrington 424-3212 Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212	Social Development	Dolores Kreal 988-0271
Rosary Ministry	Marian/Chuck Kapischke 424-2053	Bridge Groups	Len Kolojejchick 346-4078
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento 424-4759		June Garafano, Youth Singers 229-7461
Spiritual Direction	Deacon John Harrington 424-3212	Career Ministry	Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati 428-7073 Denise Radziwill 424-0494	Funsters (over 50 club)	Barbara Cerquitella 795-7323
St. Vincent de Paul	Frank Nicoletti 424-3212	Parish Festival	Al Shaffer 609-417-6770
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212	Women's Club	June Garafano 229-7461
Youth Ministry	Stan Thompson 424-1120	Administration	Bob Lento 344-7454
		House of Charity	Committee 424-3212
		Parish Finance Council	Eileen Withers 751-6838
		Parish Pastoral Council	
			Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
			Robert Crawford 424-3212
			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 or Deacon John Harrington, Moderator, at 424-3212 ext. 103.

RCIA Team: John Mohan and Irene Rellosa

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sunday, during 10 a.m. Mass

Grades one thru four: Tuesday, 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Grades five thru eight: Tuesday, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish office to register.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please submit hardcopy and/or e-mail by 4 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

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

Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing

Invitation to a Journey Called RCIA:

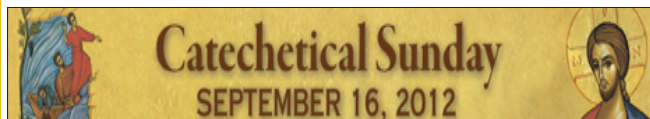
Please call Sister Ann, 424-3212 - ext. 104, or Deacon John, 424-3212 - ext. 103, to receive more information about the RCIA classes.

CATCH THE SPIRIT!



Mark your calendar

PARISH FESTIVAL 12:30- 3 p.m. on



2012 Theme: "Catechists and Teachers as Agents of the New Evangelization"

ALL Parishioners are Invited & Welcome!

Welcome Back our Catechists & Students!

Launch our Religious Education Year!

Pig Roast, Sausage & Peppers, Hamburgers,
Hot Dogs, Beverages & More!

**Great food, Entertainment & Fun Games
for Children & Adults – PLEASE JOIN US!**

Bring a Favorite Dessert to Share

Gary Gadren, Festival Chairperson

Are you a singer or instrumentalist?

You could be serving your community, deepening your faith life, meeting great people and having fun at the same time: Be a part of **St. Thomas More Music Ministry!**

Look what's going on:

Children's Choir: For Children grades 1 and higher Rehearsals will begin next Sunday, Sept. 9, after the 10 AM Mass in the Chapel. Contact June Garafano; 856-229-7461 or juneannng@hotmail.com or just attend the first rehearsal.

Youth Bands: We're looking for all kinds of instrumentalists (with at least one year of experience playing their instrument) as well as singers.

Adult music ministry: Cantors, instrumentalists, choir members. Rehearsals begin Thursday, Sept. 6, at 7:30 pm.

Special Events music ministry: For Christmas, Easter and major Church feasts. A music ministry designed to work around your schedule!

For further information, contact Roger Pisani at (856) 424-3212 x.108 or ilftrek@aol.com.

God gave you the gift of music – how will you use it?

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

August 26, 2012

\$7,942.00 - 186 Envelopes

May the Lord bless you for your generosity to your parish.

A Married Priest? – Part VI

Fr. Phillip Johnson

Copies of the previous articles in this series are available in the narthex of the church or online at the parish website: stthomasmorenj.org.

I have sometimes felt embarrassment over my unstable religious history (described in last week's article). I have taken comfort, however, in learning that my own long and drawn out “two stage” conversion is hardly unique in its spiritual and theological progression. Others have followed a similar path: from a fervent “Bible based” protestant sectarianism to a more catholic and sacramental protestantism, and finally to Rome. The most famous example being Blessed John Henry Newman, the spiritual grandfather and guide of all us modern “clergy converts.” Here I will give a brief condensed account of the experiences and the struggles that first led me into the Catholic tradition. Next week, I will explain how it was finally determined that this catholic had to become a Catholic.

The Body at Prayer

I have no trouble recalling the inner struggle, in my early adulthood, that first consciously opened my mind and heart to the Catholic tradition. To speak simply: although I believed, taught and preached the Faith, I could not (would not?) pray, at least not with any order. I knew no discipline of prayer. Personal prayer escaped me. My inner life was something of a chaos. At a time when the struggle was acute, ambling through a theological library in London, I came across two volumes, written by Friedrich von Hugel (1852-1925) – a religious philosopher, a leading Roman Catholic layman in England. A theme running through his essays was the crucial and necessary place of the *body* in religious experience, especially in Christian “spirituality.” Reading von Hugel was nothing less than an *event* for me. I was reading a keen diagnosis of the religious subjectivism, the *inwardness*, in which all my efforts to pray faltered. Suddenly I knew what C. S. Lewis meant when he said that many Christians make the mistake of trying to be “more spiritual than God” (“Incarnation”!). I came to see that I had been “chasing my own tail,” as it were, locked in a cylinder of my own would-be sincerity, trying to make myself somehow spiritually ready to pray. From von Hugel I learned a fundamental “Catholic” truth about the *unity of the human person*: even when the mind cannot bow in prayer, the body can. And, although the mind can and does lead the body to pray, it is also true that the body can lead the mind. This truth worked in me like a medicine; I stepped into the flow of the Catholic tradition of prayer. I began to learn to stop thinking, to simply enter the time and place of prayer, to speak the words placed on my lips, to “just do it.”

Grace in Time and Place (Real Presence)

One truth always opens up toward another. Truth is not a list; truth is a living organic whole. The truth about the spiritual dignity of the body leads inevitably to the *sacramental nature of God's saving grace* in Jesus Christ. The sacraments are the “body language” of God's love for us in Jesus Christ. At this point new experiences placed me in the middle of Catholic liturgical life, preparing me to receive this truth. Our community at Disciples House spent a week praying with thousands of young Christians gathered in London for a Taize sponsored prayer pilgrimage for peace. Shortly after that I began to go now and then (somewhat furtively) to week-day Mass at St. Dominic Priory Church. Feeling like a stranger, I sat on the back pew with the wine-os and the homeless. In the words and actions of the Mass, I heard the promise that God's saving grace *comes down in time and place*. We do not rise up by our piety to God; we receive God *there, now*, on the altar, before which our first act of worship is to dump our bodies (Rom. 12:1-2), that we may receive him *bodily*. My sincerity does not bring Him down, nor my righteousness. God comes down *by Grace alone, to be received by faith* (or rejected by unbelief).

The Church in History: The Communion of the Saints

It was Good Friday. For the first time ever I attended the liturgy of the Adoration of the Cross, at the same Priory Church, hiding on the back pew as always. It is not seemly to speak much about one's “spiritual experiences.” And anyway, I do not even know if this was one. What I can say is, I suddenly “saw” the Church of Christ. As the large mass of devotees filed down the aisle to kiss the Cross of Christ, from many countries, the poor and rich the clean and the dirty, the young and the old, I found myself in line with them, dragging my *body* with their bodies, toward the Cross that bore *His Body*.

And the Catholic way of prayer was deepened in me. I was coming to believe and to know that one *never prays alone*.

Saint Thomas More Parish

Anointing of the Sick

Mass of the Anointing of the Sick. In the Sacrament of Anointing we pray that the sick will be healed in body, in soul and in spirit. Christ during his life often visited and healed the sick and loved them in their illness. If you or a family member are suffering from a serious illness or infirmity and would like to join us, you are most welcome. The Church teaches that the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick can be Administered to:

- **Those with a chronic illness**
- **Those suffering from psychological/emotional illness, depression or addiction**
- **Sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be comforted by the sacrament**
- **The infirmed elderly and homebound**
- **Those preparing for surgery**

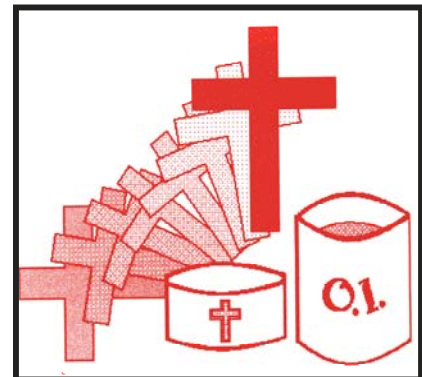
This Sacrament brings the healing strength of the Lord. Sometimes His healing comes by way of the person accepting their condition and relying on God's graces.

All parishioners are invited to attend the Anointing Mass! After Mass light refreshments will be provided.

Mark Your Calendar
Saturday, September 22, 2012
9 AM Mass

Call Sister Ann (424-3212) by September 16 if you wish to receive the Sacrament.

Names must be recorded.



Anointing of the Sick

**MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK**



SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 1

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Rodrigo Agnes r/b Agnes Family

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 2

8:30 am Bob Middleton r/b Dudley & Mary Lou Thomas
10:00 am JoAnn Gadren r/b Gaye Pino
Special Intention of William Mitchell r/b John & Sally Callaghan
11:30 am Kathleen Frain r/b Jack Boesch

MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 3 *Labor Day*

9:00 am JoAnn Gadren r/b Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Kolojechick and daughters

TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 4

6:45 am Special Intention/Get Well Thomas R. Petronella r/b Michael Curtis
9:00 am JoAnn Gadren r/b Mike & Pat Maggart

WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 5

6:45 am Alice Pottackal r/b Family
9:00 am JoAnn Gadren r/b Ron & Gail Bizzoso

THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 6

6:45 am Wanda Amari r/b Dom & Marie Sacca
9:00 am Melanie Williams r/b Denise Pereau

FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 7

6:45 am Special Intention/Get Well Thomas R. Petronella r/b Michael Curtis
9:00 am Special Intention of Donna Rule r/b Chuck & Marian Kapischke

SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 am Walter Palmer r/b Eileen & Larry Zerone
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Deceased Members of the Glaviano Family r/b Frank & Marie Glaviano

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 9

8:30 am Emily Ryszkiewicz r/b the Felckowski Fa.
10:00 am Frances Procacci r/b Gloria Jean & Phil Esbrandt
Sister Peter Marie Buttacavoli r/b Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ebling & Family
JoAnn Gadren r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
11:30 am Joe Turiano r/b Kay & Family

***PLEASE NOTE:* On Labor Day (Monday, September 3) we will be celebrating the 9:00 Mass.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
THE SICK...**



Don Kreal	Bob & Claire Boylan	
Maria Storms	Andrea Buonincontro	
Owen Smith	Naomi Willingmyre	
Mary Flacco	George Sweeten	
Ron Massey	Frank Cappetta	Danny Perla
Olga Mignone	Michael Kapischke	Joanne James
Frank Colbert	Betty O'Donnell	Alfred DiFrank
Mary Cowan	Marie Mazzagatti	Gloria Daniels
Shirley Birch	Stanley Kochanek	Denise Daniels
Jean Colbert	Pauline Rosberg	Chris Kolodzey
Dorothy Brink	Joseph Console	Marie DiFrank
Pat Barton	Geralyn Coticone	Ethan Killeen
Leila Lore	Jerry McMenamin	Carlos Santiago
Chase Lupica	Chuck Kapischke	Betty Brennan
Pat Beaney	Pasquale DiFronzo	Sharon Bushelli
YunYun Shen	Dorothy Wolenter	Michael Suralik
Virginia Foley	Al Mac Elrath	Bill O'Donnell
Fran Swider	Teddy Shaffer	MaryBranciforte
Rose Hession	Virginia Gormley	Bill Botensten
Earl Cargen	Angelo DiGiacomo	Ed Rivero
	Wayne Mauri, Sr.	

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...



Lt. Col. Allison Agar, Lance Corporal Sean Bilson, Lt. Cdr. Richard P. Byrnes, Jr., Pvt. 1st Class Mario Centofanti, Staff Sergeant Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, Sr. Airman John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, PFC Sonny Morrison, Major Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, SSgt Arturo Rivero, Jr., Lt. Col. Karl Rohr, SPC Giselle M. Torres and Cpl. Michael Willingmyre.

SCRIPTURE STUDY:

This Fall the scripture study "Parables of the Kingdom" will be offered beginning Monday, September 24 until Nov. 5, after the 9 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. In exploring the parables, participants will reflect on some of the most memorable teachings of Jesus as found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Please call Sister Ann at 424-3212 to register for this Little Rock Scripture Study by this Monday, September 3.

St. Anthony's School Mentoring Program for middle school students: Information Session for Potential Mentors & Students interested in learning about this program.

Sat., Sept. 8, 5-7 pm, at 2818 River Ave., Camden
Food & refreshments will be served!

Contact Chris Baeckstrom with questions at 856-424-7816 or cbaeckstrom@yahoo.com.

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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 9, 2012 - Mark 7:31-37

People brought Jesus a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. Jesus took him off by himself. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" that is, "Be opened!" - And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

Commentary:

The cure of the deaf-mute in today's Gospel points to a deeper reality. We are told that Jesus returned "into the district of the ten cities." This was Gentile country. The deaf-mute symbolizes the Gentiles who had to have their ears opened to God's word before they could proclaim it. For Mark's community, which was mostly Gentile, the man's cure dramatized their hearing the Good News. God draws near to all, Jews and Gentiles alike.

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?

Women's Club News

Board Meeting: Wed., Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.

25th Anniversary Tea: SAVE THE DATE! Sun., September 30 - more details coming soon.

Eileen Withers, President - 751-6838

**The 2013 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN
for your Mass intentions.**



SECOND COLLECTION:

Next week our diocese will take up the **Peter's Pence Collection**, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ATTENTION First Graders & New Parishioners
Letters outlining start-up information for the 2012/2013 Religious Education Program have been mailed this past week to all families who have registered for this upcoming year.

If your child is not yet registered, please obtain a registration form from the gathering space or online at <http://stthomasmorenj.org/>.
Classes begin September 25.

Pat Maggart, PCL, 424-3212 - ext. 106

Ministry Schedule for September 8, and 9, 2012

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father Johnson	C Plsani R Plsani	E Beckman, B Massey I Rellosa, G Tyrrell	Sr. Barbara	E Barbera G/M Gray
8:30 a.m.	Father Joyce	R Kapischke R Plsani	P Hengy, S Moore T Petrone, P Rossi	M Maggart	J Pol, L Smith E Thompson
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson	J Garafano E Zerone	K Glover, N/P Kirincic J Mazzagatti	D Mayfield	A/T Rumell A Rzepski
11:30 a.m.	Father Joyce	M Kramer R Plsani	M Garber, B/AM Lento D Staton	J Arnold	C Arnold, J Cole R Seminara