

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

Parish Trustees	Gary Gadren	424-3212
	Pat Lachnicht	424-3212

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	424-3212
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Knights of Columbus	Dick Spence	428-8325
Marriage Formation	Bob/Liz Scarpa	795-1160
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Pat Maggart	429-6948
Pastoral Counselor	Claire Spence	428-8325
Prayer Shawls	Sheila Mohan	795-6137
Respect Life	Al Mac Elrath	779-7130

Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
	Sister Ann Byrnes	424-3212

Rosary Ministry	Marian/Chuck Kapischke	424-2053
Small Christian Comm.	Ann Marie/Bob Lento	424-4759
Spiritual Direction	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	428-7073
	Denise Radziwill	424-0494

St. Vincent de Paul	Frank Nicoletti	424-3212
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Youth Ministry	Stan Thompson	424-1120

Worship

Altar Servers	Deacon John Harrington	424-3212
Church Environment	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Antonina Nicdao	751-6320
Ch. Art Environment	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
Eucharistic Ministers	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
Lectors	Pat Lachnicht	424-5636
Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
Sacristans	Dom Sacca	
	Tom Petrilli	751-1367
	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
	Frank Krenslak	309-1999
Ushers	Roger Pisani, Director	609-488-0020
Music Ministry	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
	Len Kolojejchick	346-4078
	June Garafano, Youth Singers	229-7461

Social Development

Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
	Barbara Cerquitella	795-7323
	Al Shaffer	609-417-6770
	June Garafano	229-7461
	Bob Lento	344-7454
	Committee	424-3212
	Eileen Withers	751-6838

Administration

House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	424-3212
Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	424-3212
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 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

Sign-ups for Small Christian Communities:

Those who wish to participate in our Advent Small Christian Communities are invited to sign up on the sheets provided in the Gathering Space. Our Advent session begins November 26. If you have any questions call Sister Ann at 424-3212.

Saint Thomas More Parish 2012 Fundraiser



Everyone is invited to participate.
Seize the Opportunity!
You Could Be the Lucky Winner while helping our Parish meet our necessary and essential financial obligations.

1st Prize \$10,000.00
2nd Prize \$ 3,000.00
3rd Prize \$ 2,000.00

(If all tickets are sold)

MANY CONSOLATION PRIZES

Including a Week's Stay (Dives-sur-Mer) in Normandy Beach, France—photos & info at www.ournormandyhouse.com
(Must be present to win this prize only.)

Ticket Price: \$100.00

Drawing: December 7th - 7 pm

Refreshments will be served.

Raffle Committee: AJ & Carol Ariani, Tom & Arleen Pajic, Henry & Kathy Glover, Mike & Helen Hawksley, Jerry & Jeannine McMenamin, Myra Nicoletti, Tina Petrone, Dick & Claire Spence, Joe & Chris Torello

Newly registered parishioners

Augustine Kidwell
Alberto & Tess Librojo
Denise Dunchick
Renee Rappisi



Randall, Amy, Sarah & Colin Addis
Mark, Jennifer & Monique Godofsky
Andrew, Debbie, Matthew & Gavin Huber
Roger, Maria, Sebastian & Miguel Graterol
Jessica Quinones



PERSONAL HEARING DEVICES

Are available for those who have a difficult time hearing at Mass. They are simple to use. If you would like to use one of these hearing devices at Mass, please see an usher before Mass and they will assist you. After Mass, please return the hearing device to an usher.

Resting, Giving Thanks, Feasting

Fr. Phillip Johnson

Holy Leisure

One of the ways the Communist Revolution in Russia transformed the life of the people was the elevation of *work* to a religious status. A very religious people were instantly robbed of their familiar holidays. For holidays, derive from *holy days*. But in a Marxist world, only the state is holy; in a materialist culture, work is the sole “religious” duty. Is a capitalist culture in America beginning to feel like a “total work” culture?

For many generations in Western societies, it has been taken for granted that people ought not to have to show up for work on Sundays and other designated holy days. If the Catholic philosopher Josef Pieper is right (in *Leisure the Basis of Culture*), the very concept of leisure has its origins in ancient pagan religious festival. Honoring the gods meant sharing in their privileged repose.

Of course, work is essential, and work can be holy. Still, having to work long hours *for money*, for our basic needs, or for luxuries that have become needs, is now imposing on people an endless “fasting” from rest. In a religious context, one fasts in order to prepare for the feast; one works in order to rest. In the growing secular culture of “total work,” one rests only in order to “get back work”. The once popular proverb is rarely quoted these days: “All work and no play make Jack a dull boy.”

Obviously, the historical origins of the American Thanksgiving Holiday is explicitly religious. There is no religious timidity in the language of the several thanksgiving proclamations issued by our Presidents, from George Washington's 1789 declaration to Abraham Lincoln's 1863 institution of our present yearly holiday. And what Americans like to call our “First Thanksgiving” of 1621 is deeply set in the American memory, when 53 pilgrims, joined by 90 Native Americans, celebrated a three-day feast to give thanks to God for the first harvest in their new homeland.

Eucharistia: Keeping the Holiday Holy

Thanks Giving Day is a national holiday, and as such a family-and-friends holiday. It is not a Church-instituted holiday. Nevertheless, the Church joyfully joins in the celebration, approving the deeply human religious impulse to *stop* and give thanks. In this, the Church enriches the culture of our nation, helping to sustain that religious impulse. Because, as is now obvious, it is possible for a holiday to go on and on even as the religious impulse dies, as people stop to give thanks, but with little thought of the One we are thanking.

The Catholic Church, with other Christian communities, gathers to *name* the Giver, the Lord of seed-time and harvest, the Giver of life itself, the Providence that governs the history of all nations. The Church speaks the Name of the Giver. Not just “God” or “Supreme Being” – the terms with which our present day civic religion must make do – but God the Father with his Son Jesus Christ, dwelling eternally in the communion of their shared Holy Spirit. The Church is an expert in such holidays. *Eucharistia* (Greek for “thanksgiving”) is the name of the Church's chief act of gathering.

I hope your Thanksgiving Holiday was full of family sharing, feasting and laughter, and rest and play. Even more, I hope we may all enjoy with ever deepening gratitude the holy leisure offered us, as we repose in God's grace.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Ministry Schedule for December 1, and 2, 2012

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father Johnson		J DeMichele, B Massey T Petrone, G Tyrrell	T Andraka	M Dautle, M Lender I Witting
8:30 a.m.	Father Joyce		J/L Duffy N/P Kirlincic	J Vecchlola	M/N Brown H Rosenblatt
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson		G Gadren, K Glover J Kenney, I Rellosa	B Scarpa	J/P/S Wachman
11:30 a.m.	Father Joyce		B/AM Lento D/C Spence	K McFadden	C/J McFadden

Texts of Hope and Expectation with Fr. Johnson

(simple, basic, discussions of the Advent Scripture Readings)

“Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ” (Second Vatican Council, quoting St. Jerome). Of course, no Catholic who regularly attends Mass is entirely ignorant of the Holy Scriptures. However many wish for a deeper understanding of the Faith through the Scriptures. You have questions. You would like to know “where to start” in learning more. You also have insights to share. And you know more than you think you know.

This Advent Season, please join Fr. Johnson in listening more closely to the Word of God as it comes to us through the Scriptures.

When? Saturdays, immediately following the 4:30 Mass; December 1, 8, 15 and 22.

Where? St. Thomas More Hall

What Scripture texts will we discuss? The passages read at the Sunday Masses through the Advent Season.

Who? High School age and older.

If you cannot attend all four sessions, join us for those you can. Each session we will start afresh. It's an opportunity to offer your heart and mind to God this coming Advent season.

Hospitality and light refreshments will be served.



Are you a trumpet player?

Trumpet players are needed for the various Christmas Vigil and Day liturgies.

Minimal rehearsal time - all Christmas

Masses are available. Contact Roger Pisani at 424-3212 ext. 108 or email ilftrek@aol.com.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The third class for Confirmation I candidates will be held next Sunday, December 2, at 11 a.m. in the St. Thomas More Parish Hall. All seventh grade students are expected to attend the 10 a.m. Mass prior to class.

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

YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sr. – High School students Jr. – 6th through 8th grades
 to the Religious Ed students and their parents for your generous donations of food for those in need.

Upcoming Events:

- Skating Party on Sun., December 2, 12-4 p.m. at International Sports, Skating & Sports Centre, 600 Kresson Rd., Cherry Hill. Admission is bringing a canned good for the Cherry Hill Food Pantry (Skate rental \$4 or bring your own)
- The Jr. & Sr. Youth Groups will host a Christmas Party for the children of Immaculate Conception in Camden on Sunday, December 9.
 - Meet at St. Thomas More at 8:15 am
 - Set-up & Party at Immaculate Conception until 11:00
 - Return to St. Thomas More around Noon
 - Service Hours Opportunity: Opportunity to bring a smile to a child's face!
 - *Parents are welcome to assist with driving and as chaperones.*

Stan Thompson, YG Coordinator-424-1120

CONGRATULATIONS to our New Altar Servers, we are grateful for their generosity in volunteering to serve Saint Thomas More Parish in this important ministry.

Ryan Caton

Caitlin Cepeda

Tiernan Dautle

Ian Fulton

**MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK**



SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 24

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Raymond White r/b Ken & Kim

SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 25

8:30 am John Walsh r/b Walsh Family
10:00 am Joan Radula r/b Dick & Claire Spence
Jean Pino r/b Angelucci Family
11:30 am Jim Southwick r/b Ted & Kay Uhlman

MONDAY - NOVEMBER 26

6:45 am Michael Roy Manzi r/b the McGeady Family
9:00 am Robert Moore r/b Sheila Moore

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 27

6:45 am All Souls
9:00 am Robert Middleton r/b Don & Dolores Kreal

WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 28

6:45 am Lillian Lavin r/b Sister Anna
9:00 am Special Intention of Msgr. Morgan r/b SCC Wed. morning group

THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 29

6:45 am People of the Parish
9:00 am Living and Deceased Members of Weaver & Mitkus Families r/b Bob & Mary Ann Mitkus
JoAnn Gadren r/b Henry & Kathy Glover
Joan Radula r/b St. Thomas More Women's Club

FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 30

6:45 am All Souls
9:00 am Robert Radula r/b Joan Radula

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 1

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Matthew Maggi r/b Donna Burns

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 2

8:30 am John & Agnes Walsh r/b Walsh Family
10:00 am Ralph Stillely r/b Rosemont College Faculty Members
Pedro Padre r/b David & Pat Garde Hill
11:30 am Kathleen Frain r/b Jack Boesch

Be Patient with Our Ushers - The Ushers have been asked to refrain from seating latecomers *during* the Reading of the Scriptures. Please be patient with them, this helps us avoid distracting others.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK...

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

Women's Club News

All members of the Women's Club and the entire parish family are invited to join us on Wednesday, **November 28** for a musical "**Holiday Splash**" at 7:30 PM in the Church.

Music provided by Carmen Malatino (Cantor at Saint Thomas More) and accompanist Tony Sala.

All are invited and encouraged to join us for refreshments and camaraderie in the parish hall.

Begin the Christmas season on a high note
For more info call Pat at 424-5636.



ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:

All are welcome to help make sandwiches for the Cathedral Kitchen...

Date: Wednesday, November 28
Time: after 9:00 Mass
Where: St. Thomas More Hall
See you then, thank you!
Marianne Wilkins, Coordinator
428-4924



The Diocese of Camden sexual abuse toll-free number for information about counseling and support services is 1-800-964-6588.

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 First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2012 – Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves...Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

Commentary:

A supervisor in an office checked the contents of all the employee's desktop computers. Some people on the floor were panicked, since they had a lot of activity on their computers that was not exactly work-related. But some folks in the office were relatively serene in the face of the unexpected inspection. They had nothing to fear. They used their workplaces to do their work and gave their employers a just day of labor. In the season of Advent, the gospels have a lot to say about the coming day of justice, when "people will die of fright" because of what they've done and failed to do. We don't have to be in the number. All we have to do is live thoughtfully, intentionally, and vigilantly, as if every day could be the day of our reckoning.

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?

SCC FACILITATORS

Facilitators are reminded that they are invited to breakfast on Saturday, December 8 at 10 a.m. at Ponzio's Restaurant. This gathering allows us to share how our small communities are progressing and to support one another in this important parish ministry.

Please RSVP to Sister Ann, 424-3212,
by December 6.

Knights of Columbus DINNER

Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 5 - 10 p.m.
at Iron Hill Brewery, Maple Shade

EACH PERSON MUST BRING A COUPON
(coupons can be found in the gathering space)
to the restaurant for the Knights to receive a
20% donation of your food bill.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

David Galloway, Coordinator

'FUNSTER NEWS'

NEXT MEETING: Wed.,
Dec. 5 - 1 PM

Upcoming Funster Trips - 2013

Trips are open to all Parishioners & Friends

**Please call Lin Lyon at 795-4396
for detailed itineraries.**

June 6-11: Oregon Trails featuring the Portland Rose Festival - Includes rdtrip air from Phila., hotel transfers, Columbia Gorge Cruise, visits to Mt. St. Helen, Pittock Mansion, local winery & Tillamook Cheese Factory. Also the Portland Rose Festival, the 2nd largest all-floral parade in North America and Meals; 5 breakfasts & 3 dinners. \$1905 pp dbl occupancy (**Book by Nov. 30**)

July 5-12: Northern National Parks featuring Yellowstone & Grand Tetons Nat'l Parks - Includes rdtrip air & transfers to Phila., hotel transfers, 2 nights Salt Lake City, 4 nights Jackson Hole, Wyoming & 1 night Park City, Utah (home of the 2002 winter Olympics). Meals included are 7 breakfasts & 4 dinners. \$1999 pp dbl occupancy w/early booking discount (prices are based on 10 or more passengers and booked by **December 15**)



Euthanasia and assisted suicide can appear a reasonable and even compassionate solution to the suffering of individuals and families struggling with illness or the dying process. Yet these are not real solutions - they do not solve human problems, but only take the lives of those most in need of unconditional love.

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130