

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: 7:00 pm
 Holyday: 6:45 & 9:00 am & 7:00 pm



Rite of Reconciliation
 Saturdays: 3:00-4:00 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
 Sister Katherine Pociеча, LSIC, Religious Education Coordinator
 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 Staff 424-3212
 Hospital Visitors Staff & Euch. Ministers 424-3212
 Intercersory Prayer Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Knights of Columbus Dick Spence 428-8325
 Marriage Formation Bob/Liz Scarpa 795-1160
 Parish Rel. Ed. Prog. Sister Katherine Pociеча 424-3212
 Prayer Shawls Sheila Mohan 795-6137
 Respect Life Al Mac Elrath 779-7130
 Rite of Ch. Init. Adults Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
 Rosary Ministry Marian Kapischke 424-2053
 Small Christian Comm. Ann Marie/Bob Lento 344-7454
 Spiritual Retreats John Galati 428-7073
 Denise Radziwill 424-0494
 St. Vincent de Paul Stan Thompson 424-3212
 Stewardship Sheila Tartamosa 424-3212
 Youth Ministry Stan Thompson 424-1120

Worship

Altar Servers Sister Ann Byrnes 424-3212
 Pat Maggart 424-3212
 Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Church Environment Antonina Nicdao 751-6320
 Joyce DeMichele 424-4008
 Dolores Kreal 988-0271
 Pat Lachnicht 424-5636
 Ann Vigrass 428-7217
 Dom Sacca
 Tom Petrilli 751-1367
 Greta Tyrrell 428-2412
 Frank Krenslak 309-1999
 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
 June Garafano 229-7461
 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

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.

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

Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE - 2013

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday, December 24, 2013 (Christmas Eve)
4:00 PM and 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25, 2013 (Christmas Day)
12:00 - Midnight
10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31, 2013 (Vigil) 4:30 PM

Wednesday, January 1, 2014
10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Small Christian Community Participants:

Our parish is blessed to have had over 180 parishioners participating in Small Christian Communities this Advent Season. We thank all those who shared their presence, time, and Faith in their small groups.

We are grateful to our facilitators who provided a safe place for people to share their Faith stories.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewards of the Lord

“The earth is the Lord’s and all it holds, the world and those who live there. For God founded it on the seas, established it over the rivers.”

PSALM 24:1-2

How can we take credit for the good things in our lives when Psalm 24 reminds us that God created absolutely everything and everyone on the earth? Surely we all have an obligation to *Stewardship* and should return a portion of our good fortune to the Lord, for without Him nothing would be possible.



Christmas 2013

Dear Members and Friends of St. Thomas More Parish,

I believe in Jesus Christ... God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.... For us men and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary....

The Creed teaches us to profess the mystery of the Incarnation in the first person: *I believe*. The Creed teaches us to personally claim the promise and the grace: *For us and for our salvation* he came down from heaven. This is my prayer for you in this Advent-Christmas season, that you will celebrate the wonder of the Incarnation in the first person. *He came down from heaven*: may those words address you, as if for the first time, surprising you with the truth — that God saves and heals you, not simply by almighty power from the heavenly heights, but by descending into the world of your troubles and sins, your hopes and your joys. He came to save you from the inside out. He came as Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Of course, first-person faith does not mean self-centered faith. Through this holy time, let us seek out the poor, the sick, the disabled, and the lonely. Let parents give their children the great gift of their time and presence in this season. Let us come often to Christ's altar where God's saving nearness in Christ is enacted before our eyes and received in the miracle of the Holy Mass. And may this Christmastide, by your prayers, words and actions, another hear Christ's person-to-person address.

May God grant you and your loved ones a joyful and holy Christmastide.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Phillip Johnson

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Ministry Schedule for December 24, 25, 28, and 29, 2013

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
Vigil of Christmas 4:00 p.m.	Father Joyce	J Garafano B Casey	Sr. Ann, Sr. Bozena J Galatl, I Rellosa, P Rossi	M Maggart	J/P Wachman
6:00 p.m.	Father Joyce	R Kaplschke B Casey	J DeMichele, J Kenney B Lento, B Massey	P Lachnicht	A/K/M Quay
Christmas Day Midnight	Father Rossi	Adult Choir M Kramer	J Mohan, M Santiago G Tyrrell	D Miller	M/T Ciccotta B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson	D Kreal B Casey	D Gould, K Glover J Mazzagatti	J Vecchlola	R Caton J Pol
11:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	P Kelton Casey	M Gorin, L Levin A Thompson	J Arnold	O Reganata E Thompson
Dec. 28 4:30 p.m.	Father O'Neill	M Kramer	N/P Kirlincic D Kreal	T Andraka	I Fulton, L Smith B Scarpa
Dec. 29 8:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	Sr. Pepita B Casey	A Del Campo-O'Brien B Lento R Vanderwieen	P Lachnicht	E Barbera K Johnson B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson	R Kaplschke B Casey	E Beckman, M Ciccotta G Gadren	F Egges	M/N Brown
11:30 a.m.	Father Thomas	D Kreal B Casey	M Garber, B Haughwout S Kane	V Marchesani	A/I Cammlisa

Women's Club News

*Merry
Christmas*

- **Board Meeting:** Wed., January 8, 2014 -7:30 pm

*Barbara Cerquitella, 795-7323 &
Lorraine Kennedy, 489-0031, Co-Presidents*

STMyouth

Sr. - High School students Jr. - 6th through 8th grades

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January - Martin Luther King Service Project

February - Souper Bowl of Caring Project

- Ronald McDonald House Breakfast

*The Youth Group appreciates
all of your support and wishes
you a very*



Stan Thompson, Youth Coordinator, 424-1120

Please help yourself to a 2014 calendar, they are available at the entrances of the Church.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

During the Season of Advent the candles on the Advent Wreath, at all four weekend Masses, will be lit by eighth grade candidates who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be conferred on them in May, 2014.

During the Advent Season, the children in our Parish Religious Education Program will be collecting mittens, gloves and socks for our Christmas Mitten Tree. ANY PARISHIONER wishing to donate new mittens or socks — any kind, any size, any color — may do so by hanging them directly on our Christmas Tree in the gathering space.

TIME TO CELEBRATE THE HOLY DAYS:

There will be NO Religious Education classes on Tuesday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 31.

Classes resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2014.

Like our Facebook Page
www.Facebook.com/stm.rep

Sr. Katherine Pociecha, REC, 424-3212 - ext. 106



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 21

9:00 am Peggy O'Malley r/b Family
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

4:30 pm John Orlando r/b A. J. & Carol Ariani

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 22

8:30 am Henry & Emily Ryszkiewicz r/b Family

10:00 am Paul Charette r/b Joe & Toni Andraka
Tom Wilkins r/b the Wachman Family
Special Intention of George J. Flannery
r/b Gaye Pino

Thomas L. Angelucci, Sr. r/b Gladys

11:30 am Joe & Kay Turiano r/b Family

MONDAY - DECEMBER 23

6:45 am People of the Parish

9:00 am Sara Centonze r/b Marie Budroe

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 24, Vigil of Christmas

4:00 pm Special Intentions of Joyce Family

6:00 pm Taryn Mokszycki r/b Amy Osborn

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 25, The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas)

12:00 Special Intentions of Rossi Family
Midnight

10:00 am D'Ippolito Family r/b Radziwill Family

11:30 am Joseph Zielinski r/b Cindy & Family

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 26

9:00 am William, Michael & Regina Young r/b
Janet & Mom
William Flowers r/b Ann & Bill Vigrass
Juan & Rosa Irizarry r/b Marta Santiago
& Family

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 27

6:45 am Elizabeth Wilson r/b DeMasi Family

9:00 am Cora Colantonio r/b Rosina Midili

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 28

9:00 am John Mohan, Sr. r/b John & Sheila Mohan
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

4:30 pm Dick Schweitzer r/b Family

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 29

8:30 am Tom Wilkins r/b Mike & Pat Maggart

10:00 am Ernest Basile r/b the Balco Family
Analisa Difilippo r/b Joan & Jack Hyer
Paul Charette r/b Lynn Ellinger

11:30 am Robert Moore r/b Amy Osborn

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE SICK...

Don Kreal	Claire Boylan	
Maria Storms	Naomi Willingmyre	
Phyllis Schadt	George Sweeten	
Ron Massey	John B. Kennedy	
Olga Mignone	Michael Kapischke	
Frank Colbert	Betty O'Donnell	
Mary Cowan	Henry Bourgeois	
Jean Colbert	Stanley Kochanek	
Pat Barton	Pauline Rosberg	
Leila Lore	Joseph Console	
Ed Rivero	Geralyn Coticone	
Pat Beaney	Jerry McMenamin	
YunYun Shen	Pasquale DiFronzo	
Fran Swider	Dorothy Wolenter	Keri Fisher
Rose Hession	Mary Branciforte	Helen Kane
Danny Perla	Virginia Gormley	Alfred DiFrank
Anna Bedrick	Angelo DiGiacomo	Chris Kolodzey
Pat Brink	Wayne Mauri, Sr.	Ethan Killeen
Ginny Fritz	Eleanor Regan	Carlos Santiago
Mary DeVito	Deacon Jim Smith	Betty Brennan
Harry Gindele	Ann Marie Lento	Barbara Salpas
		Michael Suralik
		Bill O'Donnell
		Teddy Shaffer
		Bill Botensten
		Chase Lupica
		Frank Cappetta
		Francesca Capra
		Sue Hagan
		Julia Lepre

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...



Lt. Col. Allison Agar, Pvt. 1st Class Mario Centofanti, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, Sr. Airman John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, AFMajor Elizabeth Michael (Tobin), PFC Sonny Morrison, Major Ryan Orfe, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Lt. Col. Karl Rohr, Air Force Major James P. Tobin, SPC Giselle M. Torres and Sgt. Michael Willingmyre.

*Newly registered parishioners
Welcome! We're glad you're here.*

Darin, Kathleen & Sarah Weber
Louis Lista Helen Protzman
Edward, Kristi, Madison & Tyler Carr
Francis & Susan Keller
Jonathan, Rachel & Hazel Coughenour
Lynn Manuel Nina Plenzick Mary Martin



CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES



are included in your December contribution envelope. Your contributions will be used for altar flowers, poinsettias for the shut-ins and church decorations. Please use this envelope to inform us who your contribution is in memory of and who it is requested by. Envelopes may be put in the collection basket. Extra envelopes are available in the gathering space. As always, thank you for your support.

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 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Dec. 29, 2013 - Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

"An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.' Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, *Out of Egypt I called my son.*"

Commentary:

Joseph couldn't be expected to raise his child and tend his family in an environment of danger and hostility like the one Herod's reign created. A good family must be nurtured and sustained in an atmosphere of love and security. If that meant becoming refugees in a foreign land, so be it. Today, millions of families around the world have been forced to make the same choice because of hostile governments, crumbling economies, and the lack of freedom to pursue their own beliefs and values. In this land of freedom and opportunity, we have the chance to welcome these families or to share our goods and support with them as they make their way to a better future. It would have been tragic if Joseph had taken his family all the way to Egypt, only to find the doors barred against him.

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?



God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life, and men must carry it out in a manner worthy of themselves. Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception. *Pro-Life Corner*

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

Saint Thomas More Parish Welcomes All

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church; no matter what your current family or marital situation; no matter what your past or present religious affiliation; no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc; you are ***Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and Respected*** at Saint Thomas More Parish.

WELCOME!

New Parishioner Registration

(Are you attending Mass here regularly? Are you registered? If not, please fill out information below and return to the parish office. The parish office will contact you for further information. Please drop this form in the collection basket.)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

**St. Thomas More
NEW YEAR'S EVE MOVIE NIGHT
THE MIGHTY MACS**

**Tuesday evening, December 31
6 PM Dinner - 7 PM Movie**

ALL ARE WELCOME, BRING A FRIEND.

First come, first served: Space is limited!
\$15 donation - *Reservation required to order food.*

Sign-up sheets are in the gathering space.

Please bring a dessert or a side dish.

Contact Marianne Gorin, 346-1811,
or Joe Centonze, 751-7103, with any questions.

'FUNSTER NEWS'



Funster Trips are open to **all** Parishioners & Friends

TRIP for 2014:

- **July 11-19, 2014**—**Trains of the Colorado Rockies** featuring rides on 4 different trains. Also visiting Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park, Colorado Nat'l Monument, Mesa Verde Nat'l Park and Garden of the Gods and Pike's Peak in Colorado Springs. Includes roundtrip nonstop air from Phila.

Book by Jan. 2 for early booking discount.

Call Lin, 795-4396, for more information and detailed itinerary.