

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: 3:15-4:00 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 Pociecha, LSIC, Religious Education Coordinator
Julie Linn, Music Ministry
Pat Cannon, Parish Secretary • Norma Matos, Parish Secretary
Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration

DIRECTORY

Pastoral Leadership

Parish Trustees	John Mohan	424-3212
	Greta Tyrrell	424-3212

Christian Life/Education

Bereavement	Staff	424-3212
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.	Sister Katherine Pociecha	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
	Antonina Nicdao	751-6320
	Joyce DeMichele	424-4008
	Dolores Kreal	988-0271
	Pat Lachnicht	424-5636
	Ann Vigrass	428-7217
	Dom Sacca	
	Pat Maggart	424-3212
	Greta Tyrrell	428-2412
	Frank Krenslak	309-1999

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 16, 2014

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

Confession on Saturdays During LENT

March 22, 29, April 5 & 12:

9:30 - 10:00 AM and

3:15 - 4:00 PM

REGIONAL PENITENTIAL SERVICE

(with private confession)

Monday, April 7

7 p.m.

Regional celebration at St. Mary's
Large number of Confessors present



The Stations of the Cross are being held on Friday evenings during Lent at 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

PARISH MISSION

Our parish mission, this year, will be held

Monday, March 31

Tuesday, April 1

Wednesday, April 2

Attend Morning session; after 9 a.m. Mass or Evening session; 7:30 p.m.

Father John Collins, a Paulist priest from NY, will lead the Mission. Please mark your calendars for this opportunity for Spiritual Renewal!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewards Go Forth

"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you."

GENESIS 12:1B

God calls His *Stewards* to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we may have to struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet God promises to show us a new land, a better place than the rat race we often live in now.

PARISH COLLECTION

March 9, 2014

\$8,988.50 - 203 Envelopes

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

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (No. 34)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

A series of reflections about thinking, praying, professing and living the Faith of the Church.

Pillars of Catholic Penitential Practice: Prayer

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer: I do not know who first called them the “pillars of Lent”, but it is an apt image. These disciplines stand together in supporting the spiritual life—contracting the boundaries of our consumption, expanding the boundaries of our generosity, and enlarging our capacity for intimacy with God. It is Jesus himself who binds them together: “when you fast.... when you pray.... when you give alms...” (see Matt 6:1ff). In Lent, we consider these disciplines in their *penitential* nature. Last week we reflected on fasting; here we consider prayer.

Saying 'Yes' to Prayer . . .

Every “yes” implicitly requires a “no”. What must we refuse in order to enter more deeply into the discipline of prayer? *More* prayer means *less* what? — t.v., computer games, the gym, work, socializing, drinking or eating or sleeping too much? Each of us must decide. A great spiritual guide once said that many Christians do not progress in prayer simply because they are too comfortable, but of course we can do something about that. “What will I give up for Lent *so that I may pray more faithfully?*” The “no” is for the sake of the “yes”.

Saying our Prayers . . .

Prayer is an *act*. As the Nike commercial used to say, “Just do it!” For most of us prayer begins with a plan for “saying our prayers”. For this we need a simple printed or memorized order of prayers. It will, of course, include the Our Father, the Hail Mary, along with morning and evening prayers. For many, the rosary is the most fruitful routine. Surely the routine should include a passage of Holy Scripture. And God always welcomes our own words, and our needy silences when there are no words. We should not expect great emotional benefit from what is essentially a simple act of obedience. We do not have to *feel* holy. The *act* itself is an offering to God that will bear fruit in our lives. The urgent thing is to keep the discipline. For this simple act of faithfulness can open the way to a great grace.

Holy Intimacy . . .

“When you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Matt. 6:6). Saying our prayers routinely, faithfully, over time—and perhaps just when we are most bored with the routine and discouraged with the dryness of our hearts—we are quietly *rewarded*. The words of the Our Father grow heavy with intimacy. In and through and with the words of the set prayer, we now recognize the Other in the room. The recitation has become a conversation. The secret is now revealed. Our Father in heaven who is “in secret” is with us.

The Gift of God . . .

“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” This is the promise of Christ himself. But what is this reward the Father gives? Perhaps it is the exact reward you have been praying for, exactly what you desired, the temporal help you needed. Our Father does not despise giving simply gifts. He too seeks our earthly well-being. He can, of course, dispense his blessings from on high (for is he not the source of every good?). But what he most wants for us—as our prayers will teach us—is the gift of his nearness. *The gift God desires most to give us is God*. And it is in this secret intimacy of prayer that he reveals to us his Son, who is the Gift of our salvation. So now, that secret “room” of prayer is the anticipation of heaven itself.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Ministry Schedule for March 22, and 23, 2014

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 p.m.	Father Joyce	R Kapschke J Linn	N/P Kirincic Sr. Zophia	F Egges	I Fulton, D Ha B Scarpa
8:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	J Garafano J Linn	Sr. Bozena B Lento, B Massey	M Maggart	K/K Johnson B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson	Choir/S Caccavale J Linn	J Mazzagatti J/S Mohan	L Gltzes	A/I Cammlisa N Samson
11:30 a.m.	Father Joyce	S Caccavale J Linn	M Ciccotta, M Gorin B Haughwout	R Ciccotta	A/J Zleba



Chris Witting, catechumen from St. Thomas More, is pictured with Bishop Sullivan at the Rite of Election on Sunday, March 9. Also attending the service were Julia Witting, Chris' sponsor, and the members of the RCIA Team; John Mohan, Sister Ann and Irene Rellosa.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The **special** sixth Confirmation II preparatory class for both **eighth grade students AND their parents** will be held next **Sunday, March 23, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the St. Thomas More Hall. Sponsors are welcome to attend as well. Both eighth grade students and their parents are encouraged to attend, as well, the 10 a.m. Mass.

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

Members of the Women's Club & STM Youth made and served breakfast for families staying at the NJ Ronald McDonald House in Camden. We were all reminded of our many blessings.



Women's Club News

March 26, 7 p.m.: Members are encouraged to attend the Parish Taize Prayer service in the Chapel.

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

Taize Prayer Service

Wednesday, March 26 - 7 pm
OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Taize Prayer is a wonderful meditative experience which includes simple chants sung repeatedly, rich silence, scripture readings, prayer around the cross during Lent, and prayers of praise and intercession. *Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Women's Club* - Light refreshments after the service.



In celebration of the FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH (Wednesday, March 19) we will be serving refreshments after the 9:00 Mass in the gathering space. **Wear RED.**

Marianne Wilkins, Coordinator

Easter Flower donation envelopes

are included in your weekly envelope packet. Your Easter Flower offering will be used for altar flowers, lilies for the shut-ins and church decorations. Your envelope can be put in the collection basket, mailed or dropped off at the parish office. Please indicate, on envelope, if you wish to have your donation made in memory of a loved one. Your generosity will help to enhance our Easter liturgies.



SCC FACILITATORS' BREAKFAST GATHERING:

All SCC facilitators are invited to Ponzio's Restaurant next **Saturday, March 22** for a **10 a.m. Breakfast Meeting**. We will gather to share the gifts of our small groups and also any challenges that we may have. *Hope to see everyone on the 22nd, Sister Ann*



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY - MARCH 15

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Loretta Cirillo r/b Dick & Joyce DeMichele

SUNDAY - MARCH 16

8:30 am Michael Vigrass r/b Family
10:00 am John Mohan, Sr. r/b John & Sheila Mohan
Deceased Members of St. Thomas More
Parish r/b St. Vincent de Paul Society
Rodolfo Pasion r/b Hu Family
11:30 am Joe & Kay Turiano r/b Family

MONDAY - MARCH 17

6:45 am Bernadette O'Donnell r/b John & Sheila
Mohan
9:00 am Jim Bones r/b Teri & Family

TUESDAY - MARCH 18

6:45 am Matilda Sacca r/b Christina Castillo
9:00 am Paul Charette r/b Tuesday A.M. SCC

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 19

6:45 am Joseph Fecondo r/b Mr/Mrs Harry Smith, Jr.
9:00 am Karen Marie Browning r/b her Mom

THURSDAY - MARCH 20

6:45 am People of the Parish
9:00 am Maureen Sweeney r/b John & Sheila Mohan
Special Intention of Leona r/b Cindy
Alfred DiFrank r/b Lois & Ralph Udicious

FRIDAY - MARCH 21

6:45 am People of the Parish
9:00 am Mr. Albert Bach r/b his Family

SATURDAY - MARCH 22

9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Mary Cinefra r/b Mary Hamersly

SUNDAY - MARCH 23

8:30 am Debbie Kaplan r/b Marchese Family
10:00 am William Wislocky r/b Wislocky Family
Kay Turiano r/b Ray & Gloria Desrochers
Lou Casa r/b Hu Family
11:30 am Jose (Danny) Padolina II r/b Padolina
Family

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

March - That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

THE DECEASED... Betty Brennan and Mary DeVito.

THE SICK...

Don Kreal	George Sweeten
Maria Storms	John B. Kennedy
Phyllis Schadt	Michael Kapischke
Ron Massey	Chris Kolodzey
Helen Kane	Betty O'Donnell
Claire Boylan	Henry Bourgeois
Frank Colbert	Stanley Kochanek
Mary Cowan	Pauline Rosberg
Jean Colbert	Joseph Console
Pat Barton	Geralyn Coticone
Leila Lore	Jerry McMenamin
Ed Rivero	Pasquale DiFronzo
Pat Beaney	Dorothy Wolenter
YunYun Shen	Mary Branciforte
Rose Hession	Virginia Gormley
Danny Perla	Angelo DiGiacomo
Anna Bedrick	Wayne Mauri, Sr.
Pat Brink	Francesca Capra
Ginny Fritz	Deacon Jim Smith
Sue Hagan	Margaret Crawford
Julia Lepre	



Ethan Killeen
Carlos Santiago
Barbara Salpas
Michael Suralik
Bill O'Donnell
Teddy Shaffer
Bill Botensten
Chase Lupica
Frank Cappetta
Harry Gindele
Eleanor Regan
Pat Suralik
Msgr. Budney
Bryan Dietrich
Pauline Montes

THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...

Lt. Col. Allison Agar, SSgt Samuel Brough, Pvt. 1st Class Mario Centofanti, Lt. Anthony R. Cosentino, Capt. Anthony T. DeMarco, SSgt John P. DeYoung, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, 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.

House of Charity Celebrating 50 Years - 1964-2014 "Unearthing the Treasure"

Thank you to those who have already pledged. We are still striving to reach our 2014 parish goal of \$112,200.00. Pledge cards are available in the gathering space — please mail in or drop off at the parish office.

We are in the final stages of preparing our **PARISH Pictorial DIRECTORY** for publication.

The Directory will include a Roster (name, address, phone number) of all our parish families. If you do **not** want to have your phone number included in this roster, please call (856-424-3212) or email the parish office (stthomasmore@comcast.net).

If your family was not able to be photographed, you can provide us with a family photo along with a fee of \$10.00 to be included in the Directory. You will then receive a copy of the parish pictorial directory.

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Third Sunday of Lent, March 23, 2014 - John 4:5-42

The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."... The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?" They went out of the town and came to him... Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done."

Commentary:

What do you do when you come face to face with the realization of your best hopes and desires? When you meet the person who really loves you? When you encounter the community where you're finally understood? When you find the work that fulfills you? When you enter the place you can, at last, call home? The moment when dreams come true sometimes feels light-years away from our reality. That's for fairytales and movies, we sigh. That's pie in the sky for when we die. But those who have encountered the living Christ, as the Samaritan woman did that day at the well, know that the ultimate dream of human fulfillment is not a fairytale. The Messiah lives! The one we seek is speaking to us. Imagine the joy and amazement of that much-married and much-disappointed woman, to meet the man of her dreams in an "enemy" Jew at the well! Astonishment made her forget her errand. Ecstasy made her leave her shame with her bucket as she ran back to town to share the wonderful news! After Mary, the Mother of Jesus, this Samaritan woman is portrayed as the first woman to urge people to come to Jesus.

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?



Because of abortion on demand, countless plans of God have been thwarted. Can anything offend God more? Abortion effects the present in an absolute way, but it affects the future in an unfathomable way.

Pro-Life Corner

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

St. Thomas More

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL PARISH-WIDE

PROGRESSIVE DINNER



St. Thomas More Parish's always popular Progressive Dinner will take place on **Sunday, April 6, 2014** at Caffe Aldo Lamberti, Cherry Hill, **5:30—9:30 P.M.** \$49 per person.

For reservations please call Barbara Cerquitella, 795-7323 or Joyce DeMichele, 424-4008 by no later than March 26.

Diocese of Camden

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation

Youth, Young Adult & Campus Ministries

Does leaving for college mean leaving your faith?

It doesn't have to. Current college students & high school seniors are invited to **"Open My Eyes"** at Rowan Univ. in Glassboro on **Sat., March 29**. This inspiring event will bring together the college classes for 2014—2018 for a day of prayer, faith, evangelization and community. Sponsored by Catholic Campus Ministries of Rowan Univ., Rutgers-Camden and Stockton. Get more info or register at: <https://openmyeyes.eventbrite.com> or contact Greg Coogan at (856) 583-6122.

Career Transition Partnership

Brush up on your job seeking skills at these workshops: 6:30 pm: Informal Networking - Meet & Greet
7:00 pm: Program

Marlton Workshops at St. Isaac Jogues Parish Hall

3/19 - Today's Job Search Strategies, Ennis Harris

4/2 - Improving your Interview Presence, John Garofalo

Cherry Hill Workshop at Temple Emanuel

4/10 - Interview Success Stories by Lee Ann Vozdovic

FREE training programs and a mentoring service to assist job seekers in their transition.

Our website presents additional information to aid you in your employment transition: www.ctpnj.org.



The flowers at the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue have been placed there, this weekend, in loving memory of Fran Boesch, requested by her husband, Jack.