

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
Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation
Sister Katherine Pociеча, 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 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
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

Ushers

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MAY 25, 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

The Ascension of the Lord on Thursday, May 29, is a Holyday of Obligation.

Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 28, at 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday, May 29, at 6:45 & 9 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 27 - 7:00 P.M.

Invitation to a Journey Called RCIA:

This invitation is open to those who are not baptized as well as those who are baptized in a Christian faith and wish to enter full communion with the Catholic Church.

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

SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT WEEKEND we will take up the Collection for the **Catholic Communication Campaign**. The Collection communicates the Gospel through Catholic social media activities and enriches our faith through Internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of all proceeds remain in our diocese and support local needs, so please be generous.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewards Live God's Plan

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil."

1 PETER 3:17

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning, making sure things are progressing smoothly, then disaster strikes, we don't get the result that was intended. An unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively. Why me? I did everything right! Here's the thing - God has a different and better plan in store for those who live as His *Stewards*.

PARISH COLLECTION

May 18, 2014

\$10,584.50 - 188 Envelopes

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

The Catholic Faith In Slow Motion (no. 41)

Fr. Phillip Johnson

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

The Ascension of Our Lord

This coming Thursday the Church will celebrate the Ascension of Christ (see the liturgy schedule in this bulletin). St Luke, in the opening chapter of his Acts of the Apostles, writes this account:

He [the Risen Christ] presented himself alive to the apostles by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. . . . When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses. . . . to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight (Acts 1:3, 6-9).

Forty Days . . .

One of the appearances of the risen Jesus turned out to be his last. During forty days the risen Jesus appeared to his apostles and other disciples. He established their faith and restored them to his fellowship. He taught them to understand the Holy Scriptures. He gave them their mission and established Peter as shepherd of his flock. He then was visibly “lifted up”, says St. Luke. Enshrouded by a cloud, he was “taken from their sight”. The Gospels make plain that this was a definitive “departure”. “As he blessed them, he “parted from them (literally, 'he exited') and was taken up into heaven” (Luke 24:51). They were no longer to expect his appearances to continue. His presence with them would be in a new and different way.

The Man Jesus . . .

Jesus, Mary's Son, born in Bethlehem and raised in Nazareth, ascended. That is to say, the Ascension is not to be understood as a “spiritual” abandonment of his truly human existence. *The ascension is not an undoing of the Incarnation*, in which the Eternal Son of God “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). It is in his risen humanity that he ascends to the Father's “right hand in the heavens” (Eph. 1:20). The apostles will continue to address him in prayer and praise by his human Hebrew name. He is “the one Mediator, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 2:5). And “at the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil. 2:11). Our Lord does not cease to be our brother.

Why is this truth so important? Because it is *our* humanity that he came to share. It is *our* human nature that he “takes with him” into heaven. It is a truly human “place” he is preparing for us (John 14: 2, 3). For what is heaven? Heaven is the place where God and his human creatures can dwell together.

Love Ascended: The Marks of the Cross . . .

You will remember that in his appearances over forty days, the Risen Jesus confirmed his identity to his disciples by showing them the signs of his suffering. The risen Christ was still marked by the signs of his self-offering on the Cross. It is a great blessing that Christian art has preserved this striking memory in depicting the Ascension—that Jesus ascends with the marks of the nails and the spear and the thorns. He is ever the Ascended Crucified one. His resurrection and ascension are indeed his victory over the cross, but he does not leave the cross behind. Rather, the signs of his suffering love are lifted up as the means of the world's salvation. In heaven he is forever known as the “lamb slain from the foundations of the world” (Rev. 13:8). And this is our salvation, that the long-suffering sacrificial love of God now rules eternally “at the right hand of the Father”.

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Ministry Schedule for May 28, 29, 31, and June 1, 2014

Mass Time	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
7:00 p.m. Vigil	Father Johnson	Music Ministry	T Petrone I Rellosa	J Mohan	A Rzepski B Scarpa
Ascension 7:00 p.m.	Father Johnson	Music Ministry	E Beckman K Glover	F Egges	J/P Wachman
4:30 p.m.	Monsignor Graham	C Rivera J Linn	J Galati, D Kreal S Mohan	J Mohan	J/P Wachman B Scarpa
8:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	J Garafano J Linn	J/L Duffy Sr. Rosarla	M Maggart	O Reganata B Scarpa
10:00 a.m.	Father Johnson	Choir/R Allen J Linn	D Gould, J Mazzagatti D Staton	K McFadden	E Barbera C/J McFadden
11:30 a.m.	Father Johnson	D Kreal B Casey	L Levin, H Protzman K Wislocky	K Wislocky	S Russo A/I Witting

Women's Club News

Year-ending Gala: Wed., May 28 at 6:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE.

Board Meeting: Wed., June 4, 2:30 p.m.

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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parish Religious Education Program registration forms for the 2014-2015 school year were mailed to the homes of all current students. Please complete and return them with appropriate fee as soon as possible, but no later than June 30. Additional forms for first grade students and for students who will be new to the program will be available in the gathering space.

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

GRADUATES RECOGNIZED:

In June we recognize, in the bulletin, all those graduating in our parish community: *for those in Catholic school, high school, college or graduate school* please call the parish office, 424-3212, by May 26 so we can include your name.



HOUSE OF CHARITY

Celebrating 50 Years - 1964-2014

"Unearthing the Treasure"

Sincere thanks to all who made a gift or pledge to our House of Charity Appeal. Our 2014 parish goal is \$112,200.00.

Pledge cards can still be found at the doors of the Church. Completed cards can be mailed or dropped off at the parish office.

We are so grateful for your support.

May the Lord bless and reward you for your generosity.

'FUNSTER NEWS'



Funster Trips are open to ALL Parishioners & Friends. Sign ups have begun for our new **fall bus trip to Finger Lakes and Cooperstown - Sept. 8-11, 2014**

3 nights with breakfast & dinner daily (one in the beautiful Belhurst Castle). One lunch at the magnificent Otesaga Resort in Cooperstown and admission to National Baseball Hall of Fame. Also enjoy wine tasting, a scenic cruise, tour Willard Memorial Chapel (designed by Tiffany Glass), the William Seward house, the George Eastman house and gardens and the 40 room Sonnenberg Estate and Gardens.

Call Lin at 795-4396 to sign up for this great trip. Space is very limited!

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL: EVANGELII GAUDIUM - A Diocesan event held on Tuesday, May 27 at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Sicklerville. A Leadership event from 9 am-3 pm will focus on practical tools from Evangelii Gaudium to apply to each of our pastoral ministries (cost: \$10, light breakfast & lunch included). Call Andres Arango, 856-583-6170, to register.



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY - MAY 24

- 9:00 am Mother's Day Intentions
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Anna Mary Wislocky r/b Wislocky Family

SUNDAY - MAY 25

- 8:30 am Virginia Wood r/b Dominic & Denise Pucci
10:00 am Angelo Lamarca r/b Family
Constancia P. Baltazar r/b Grace Cobin
Michael r/b Mom
Bill Ellinger r/b his wife, Lynn
11:30 am Kay Turiano r/b Dick & Claire Spence

MONDAY - MAY 26 Memorial Day

- 9:00 am Our American Warriors r/b Teri Bones

TUESDAY - MAY 27

- 6:45 am Mother's Day Intentions
9:00 am Joe Turiano r/b Family

WEDNESDAY - MAY 28

- 6:45 am Mother's Day Intentions
9:00 am Lorraine Saitta r/b Janice Campaglia
7:00 pm Mary Flacco r/b Galati, Flacco & Inverso
Vigil Families

THURSDAY - MAY 29, The Ascension of the Lord

- 6:45 am Mother's Day Intentions
9:00 am Bill Koelsch r/b Family
7:00 pm Alfred DiFrank r/b Christina Castillo

FRIDAY - MAY 30

- 6:45 am Mother's Day Intentions
9:00 am Catherine Gorman r/b Joe & Jane Kenney

SATURDAY - MAY 31

- 9:00 am Peig O'Malley r/b Martin O'Malley & Jean Gorman
Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
4:30 pm Robert Emmett Sweeney r/b John & Sheila Mohan

SUNDAY - JUNE 1

- 8:30 am Sr. Peter Marie (Joanna) Bottacavoli and Marie Petrone r/b Fred & Tina Petrone
10:00 am Lauren Kuchler r/b Norma & John Martin
John & Gloria Galati r/b Galati & Lerro Families
Marion Bittner & Diana Starr r/b Joan & Jack Hyer
11:30 am Kay Frain r/b Jack Boesch

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

May - That the media may be instruments in the service of truth and peace.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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	Angelo DiGiacomo	
Rose Hession	Wayne Mauri, Sr.	
Sue Hagan	Francesca Capra	
Anna Bedrick	Deacon Jim Smith	
Pat Brink	Margaret Crawford	
Ginny Fritz	Pauline Montes	
Vince DeMasi	Ann Vigrass	

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, and Air Force Major James P. Tobin.

PLEASE NOTE: On the Memorial Day holiday (Monday, May 26) we will be celebrating the 9:00 Mass.

Have you and your family been impacted by tough economic times? The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to help you pay your winter heating bills and due to a challenging winter filled with frigid temperatures and frequent snow storms, the State has extended the LIHEAP application period to June 30, 2014. For those with moderate incomes, the TRUE Grant, PAGE Grant and/or New Jersey SHARES programs may provide financial assistance. Call 1-800-510-3102, or visit pseg.com/help to download program applications and find information on how to apply.

CAMDEN COUNTY

Camden County Council on Economic Opportunity
Point Plaza, 5287 Route 70, Pennsauken, NJ 08109 *
(856) 910-1180 - Mon.-Fri., 9 am - 5 pm

* Applications must be mailed to this address within the county.

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Seventh Sunday of Easter, June 1, 2014 - John 17:1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began."

Commentary:

When Jesus ascended into heaven, for a moment it must have seemed like the world's saddest day. To have Jesus as your constant companion and friend, only to lose him from view - what could it have been like? Thank heaven the angels appeared and told the disciples to get a grip. Forget attachment to changeable emotions that dart like fish here and there. Hadn't they had enough of that during the long seven days we now call Holy Week? Stop grasping at this day or that hour as if it's the one that gives life meaning or contains the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Jesus didn't come into this world to offer us the tragedy of Good Friday to mourn or the victory of Easter to celebrate. Jesus brought eternity into time, so that we could climb out of time ourselves and be united with him in everlasting life. If the church calendar does anything, it assists us in detaching ourselves from chasing the years and invites us to consider never-ending realities. Knowing Jesus Christ is the first step we take on the threshold of eternity.

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?



PROJECT RACHEL

Hurting from Abortion? The Camden Diocese is offering a confidential retreat weekend for those suffering from the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion: **June 27-29, 2014.**

For information contact Margarita: 701-5515
All calls are CONFIDENTIAL!

Al Mac Elrath, Respect Life Coordinator - 779-7130

I am pleased to inform you that two of our projects were recognized for "**Outstanding Achievement**" by the Middle Atlantic Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, they are:

Village of St. Peter's Senior Housing
in Pleasantville

Benedict's Place Senior Housing in Cherry Hill

I offer thanks to all of you for your contributions to the success of the Diocesan Housing Services Corp. projects.

Curtis H. Johnson, Jr. - Executive Director

HEARING DEVICE: If you have any questions on the hearing device please call the parish office, 424-3212.

Diocese of Camden

OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION

CAP 1 teaches attendees to recognize child abuse and neglect and how to report to the proper authorities. Adults are taught that children have the right to be safe, strong and free. CAP 1 is for new volunteers and employees.

CAP Phase 1

- Mon., June 2, 7 p.m. - St. Joseph Regional School,
Somers Point

- Thurs., June 5, 7 p.m. - Saints Peter & Paul, Turnersville
Parish Center

To attend one of the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) classes, please call the CAP registration line, 583-6165. Please register at least five days before the session you would like to attend.

Come *Dine for Dollars*

In support of the Knights of Columbus



Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Place: Lamberti's Tutti Toscani, Brace Rd, Cherry Hill

Time: 4 - 10 p.m.

Reservations Requested, call 354-1157. Please mention this fundraiser when booking.

Your Role in Supporting Us: Bring an ad (available in gathering space) to server, when you pay for your meal.

Each member of your party must have their own.