

St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

Convent Station, NJ

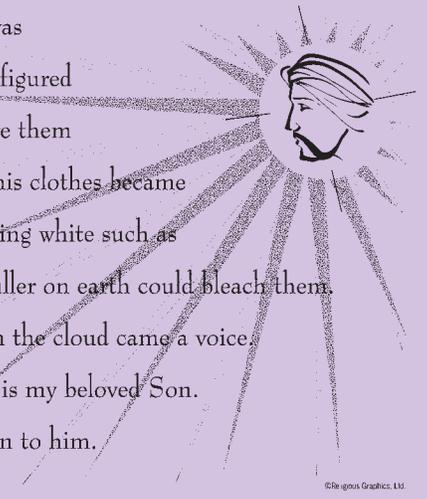
973-267-5330 • www.stmnj.org

2nd Sunday of Lent



As a faith community, we keep in mind who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God. Special requests for prayers at liturgy and donations made in honor of loved ones. These intentions and names of our sick are noted on the Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.

He was
transfigured
before them
and his clothes became
dazzling white such as
no fuller on earth could bleach them.
From the cloud came a voice:
This is my beloved Son.
Listen to him.



February 25, 2017 • Second Sunday of Lent

St. Patrick's Day Party

March 17, \$30 adults, kids free! VFW Hall, Mt. Tabor Rd. Don't miss this Great Party. Reservation envelopes in the vestibule, go to stthommore.weshareonline.org or call the parish office.

Care of our Common Home

Learn about Pope Francis's Encyclical Laudato Si, and the Church's teaching on the environment and God's people. Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.

Women's Guild Presentation

The Women's Guild meeting is Tues., 1 pm. Pizza for all. There will be a speaker from Mc Hugh & Marci attorneys seminar on Elder and disability law. All are welcome to attend.

FlockNote Messages

Didn't get the snow message last week? Rel. Ed. parent and didn't get "no class" message? Confirmation student and not getting Lenten messages?. Look below to see how to register.

Connect with us
via
FLOCKNOTE
Text STMNJ to 84576
or visit flocknote.com/STMNJ

We ❤️ love having you
as part of *our* flock

Rice Bowl

This Week encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.



Your Membership Data

Update birthdays, anniversaries, pictures, email addresses and other info on our database: <https://stmnj.bythebook.us/co/>. Enter your email address and last name. Receive a confirmation email in order to log on. If you don't see your info, call the office or email info@stmnj.org to give us your name and email address. We will enter that address and send you a note back to try again. Your email address needs to match the one in the database to log in.

Tradition!

Villa Walsh Academy will present "Fiddler on the Roof," Sat. March 24, 7 pm and Sun. Mar. 25, 3 pm Tickets \$12. Info: 973-538-3680 or www.villawalsh.org.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

3rd Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-17

A covenant is a solemn agreement between two parties with each promising something. Exodus recounts how the Jews escaped from slavery and made a covenant with God on Mt. Sinai: God promises to accept the Israelites as his people. In return, they promise to keep God's commandments.

Second Reading: 1 Corinth. 1: 22-25

Paul wrote to his Corinthian converts about the difficulty preaching about a crucified savior. To Jewish people who looked for a powerful Messiah performing spectacular signs, it seemed unacceptable that the Messiah would suffer and die. To Gentiles, it seemed entirely absurd that someone who died such a humiliating death could be the savior of the world.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

How deeply do you believe that since God is for you, no one can destroy you?

For Children:

What would you like to ask God to do for you and your family?

Lenten Action for Dreamers: Congressional Call-In Campaign

Bishop Serratelli urges us to join with the U.S. bishops and Catholics to participate in the Call-in Day to Congress on Monday, February 26. Our advocacy is critical to help the nearly 1.8 million Dreamers, young people, brought into the United States by their parents as children, who may face deportation as soon as March 6, unless Congress reaches a bi-partisan deal to protect them. Ways to help:

1. Call 855-589-5698 to reach the Capitol switchboard, and press 1 to connect to your Senators. Once connected to each office, ask the person on the phone to deliver this simple message: "I urge you to support a bipartisan, common-sense, and humane solution for Dreamers:

- Protect Dreamers from deportation and provide them with a path to citizenship.
- Reject proposals that undermine family immigration or protections for unaccompanied children.
- As a Catholic, I know that families are not "chains," but a blessing to be protected.
- Act now to protect Dreamers, our immigrant brothers and sisters. "

2. Call 855-589-5698 a second time to reach the Capitol switchboard again. Press 2 to connect to your Representative. Once connected, ask the person on the phone to deliver the same message as above.

After completing your call, please go to <http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org> to learn more about Dreamers and find other ways to voice your support. Also, look at the article on our website's news portion.

What's Happening?

Sunday

Pound A Week
Central and Eastern
Europe Collection



Monday

Confessions, 7 pm

Tuesday

Lenten Program, 7 pm

Friday

Stations of the Cross, 7 pm

Next Sunday

Religious Ed.

March 10

No 8:15 am Mass

March 18

Anointing Mass, 11 am

March 19

Parish Penance Service, 7 pm

Sign up Now

St. Patrick's Day Party, March 17

Stewardship

of Treasure

Last week: \$ 4409

Sign up Today

for electronic giving

stthommore.weshareonline.org



IF GOD IS FOR
YOU, WHO CAN BE
AGAINST YOU?



THE GAS COMPANY,
THE PHONE COMPANY,
THE ELECTRIC
COMPANY...



i SCYDPU UBBB!
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Restore the Church Build the Future

Our second collection is for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation helps restore the Church and build the future in over 25 countries still struggling to recover in the aftermath of communist rule. Funds help support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Bishop Serratelli reminds us this collection offers a way for us to stand in solidarity with those who experienced decades of Soviet control and who continue to feel the effects of poverty, infrequent pastoral care and a lack of buildings in which to worship.

Things to Do in Lent

Spend Six Minutes a Day

Black books for adults

Operation Rice Bowl

Sacrament of Penance

Francis' letter on the Environment

Stations of the Cross

Eucharist

Parish Media Library

Prayer

**Bishop Serratelli's Lent Pastoral in the
vestibule or at <www.rcdop.org>**

Find 40 good things to do for others

"Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else, if it helps us cultivate the style of the good Samaritan, who bent down to his brother in need and took care of him."

— Pope Francis

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Convent Station, NJ 07961

GPS: 4 Convent Rd.

Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

See us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter@StThomMore

Weekly Eucharists

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm

Monday – Saturday: 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.

Holy Days

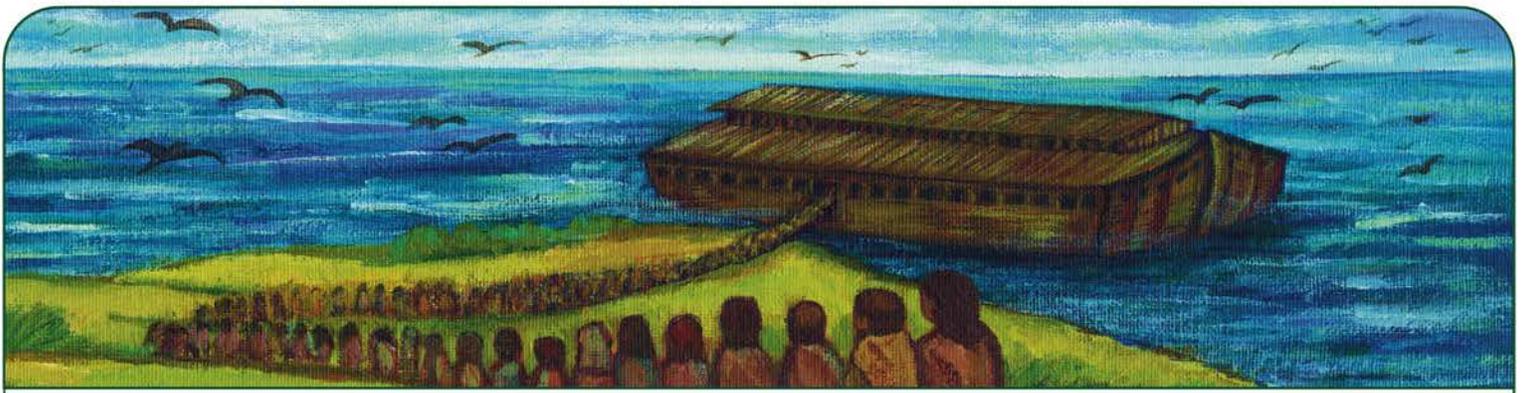
8:15 am, 12:10 pm, 7 pm

Parish Office Hours

Mon. - Wed, 9:30–2 pm

*Other times & days,
call to see if office
is open.*

www.stmnj.org



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 26

Forgiveness

“Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins,” is the refrain for today’s Psalm. This refrain is a fitting response to the First Reading in which Daniel calls out his people’s sin. He also reminds us that God is compassionate and forgiving. Sin separates us from God, but when we seek pardon with contrite hearts, God hears us and embraces us. We are then called to imitate God and forgive one another. How might you practice forgiveness? Today, meditate on the Act of Contrition. *Today’s Readings: Daniel 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, February 27

Hear and Listen

The prophet Isaiah passionately calls upon the people to “hear” and to “listen” to God. Isaiah also calls to us in this Lenten season to open our hearts to God’s love. Listen! Hear! God is calling you away from our misdeeds and urging you to work for justice. God’s promise is that the stain upon our hearts will be washed clean and become as white as snow. Place yourself in the First Reading and the Gospel as you pray today. What do you hear? *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, February 28

Save Me

Strong emotion is evident in today’s Psalm. When distraught, we can look to the psalms for the words to give voice to our feelings. Other psalms help us sing of our love for God. No matter how we feel at the moment, the psalms can help us realize God’s love for us and surrender ourselves to him. This evening, pray today’s Psalm. *Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, March 1

What Path

The prophet Jeremiah presents us with two paths. The first is for the one who trusts in earthly things or ideas. This person will not have life. The second is the path of the one who trusts in the Lord. The one who follows the Lord will bear abundant fruit. Consider your life. What path have you chosen? Take a slow walk today and meditate upon this reading and your journey. *Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 2

The Vineyard

Imagine yourself (and your parish) as the vineyard in today’s story. How often have you rejected or ignored God’s servants? It is difficult at times to hear the call to conversion. If you put yourself into the story, who would you be and how would you react? Ultimately, Jesus is trying to teach us that he is the one who saves and those who choose to ignore and not follow will not inherit the Kingdom. Go forth today and cultivate good conversations and share the Good News. *Today’s Readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

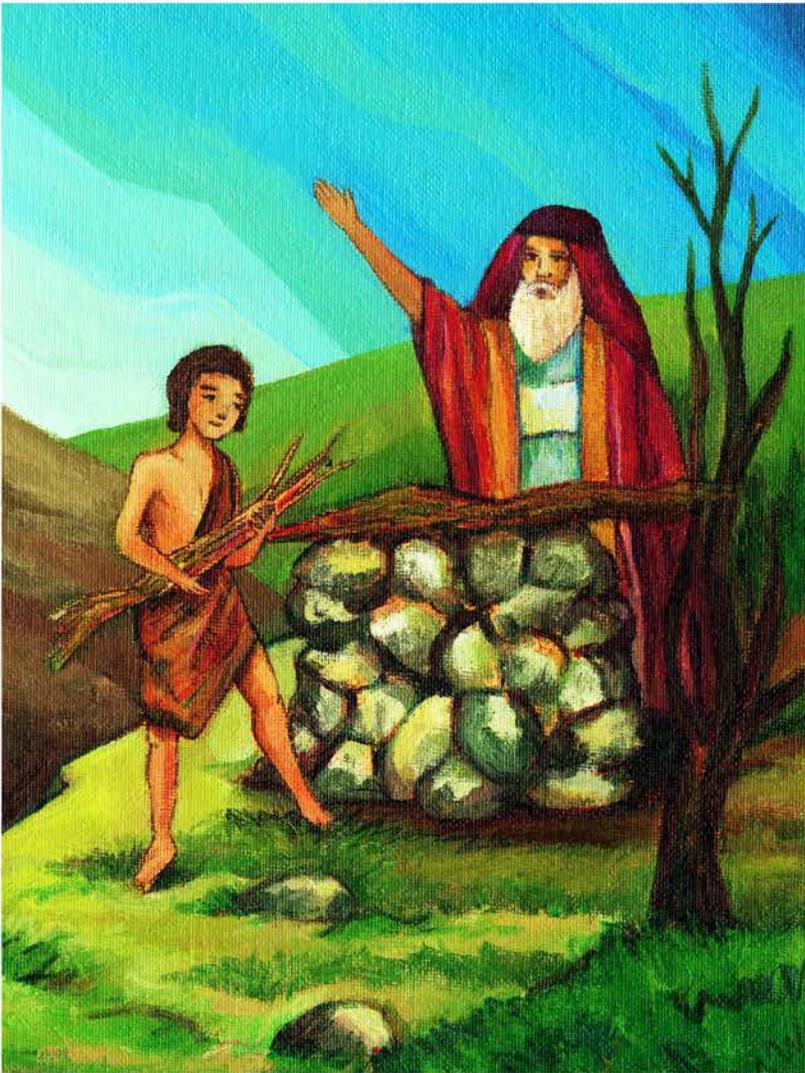
Saturday, March 3

Loving and Forgiving

The Prodigal Son is a familiar story that invites us to contemplate our relationship with God and God’s abounding love for us. As you read this Gospel once again, identify the main movements. What does this parable teach about forgiveness? As the Psalm states, “The Lord is kind and merciful,” and each of us, united in love, is called to show compassion. Consider ways you might festively celebrate one’s return or the gift of reconciliation. *Today’s Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Transformed Hearts

God of unimaginable blessings,
who tested Abraham's faith,
help us to surrender all that is
self-seeking.

Filled with compassion,
you revealed your love for us
in the Paschal Mystery of your beloved
Son, Jesus.

Grant us, during this Lenten journey,
transformed hearts that shine with the
light of your glory;
enlighten your people
so we may be attentive to the sound of
your voice.

Keep us ever mindful of your presence
and of the countless gifts you have
bestowed upon us
so that on that final day,
we may be called your beloved children.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Listen



Today's Readings: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13; 15-18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10. Each time you hear the First Reading you may wonder how God could ask Abraham to sacrifice his son. The passage, though, highlights Abraham's unwavering devotion to God. As our father in faith, Abraham teaches us to listen carefully to God. He also teaches us to remain faithful to the covenant. We know from the reading that God promised to bless Abraham and his descendants for generations because of this witness of faith. Can you think of a time God asked you to sacrifice something dear to you? How did you respond?

In examining the Gospel, God's promise becomes more evident. We are the heirs to this great promise. At the

Transfiguration, God reveals his beloved Son to Peter, James, and John. They have known Jesus, but now they have seen him in his full glory. This moment prefigured all that will come about in the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. Once and for all, God revealed in Jesus the depth of his love. God's sacrifice of his Son shows how much God loves us. God has kept his promise and now we, the heirs of this great mystery, are invited to share it with all people.

In these early days of Lent, take time to sit quietly and listen to God. In a journal, write or draw what you hear and rest in the dazzling presence of God whose love knows no end.