

# *Saint Thomas More Catholic Church*

*4 Convent Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960*

*973- 267-5330*

*www.stmnj.org*

*info@stmnj.org*

*We exist for one reason: to come to know and be formed by the Word of God and the Message of Jesus. When we gather in prayer and worship, in service and community, we assemble as disciples and friends with the Lord in our midst. Rooted in our Roman Catholic tradition, we are proud of our parish heritage and hopeful for our future.*

***Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetere Sunday) - March 31, 2019***

## **Parish Staff**

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.  
Pastor  
tfallone@stmnj.org

Fr. Joe Davis  
Weekend Assistant

Pat Schell  
Parish Secretary  
secretary@stmnj.org

Mark Davis  
Music - Organist

Frank Miles  
Trustee

Mary Murphy  
Trustee

## **Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Wednesday  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

## ***Celebration of the Eucharist***

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm *(Please note there will be no 7 pm Mass on holiday weekends.)*

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday 8:15 am

Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm; Holy Day 8:15 am and 12:10 pm

## ***Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance)***

Saturday: 3:30 pm or by appointment

## ***Eucharistic Adoration***

Every First Friday of the Month following the 8:15 am Mass and concluding with Benediction at Noon

## ***Additional Sacraments***

Baptism: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least 8 weeks in advance of the desired date.

Marriage: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance of the desired date.

## ***Join the St. Thomas More Family***

New parishioners can register at any time! Please call or stop by the Parish Office between 9 am - 2 pm, Monday through Wednesday, or send an email to info@stmnj.org. We'd love to welcome you!!



## Blast From the Past(or) Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetere Sunday) March 31, 2019

He *squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation....*

So unfolds one of the most arresting and sobering lines of the New Testament. It stops one in their tracks because it sums up the Great Tragedy of the Prodigal Son and alerts us to our greatest danger: wasting time. What is this 'dissipation?' Upon examination, we learn that it means 'self-indulgence' and 'disintegration.' Note how the two terms are eerily linked. As the *Imago Dei*, we are made for integration, communion, wholeness and happiness. But so often we live in the cramped confines of our ego, where we realize that living for ourselves alone makes us miserable. I recall one line from our college commencement speaker who said, 'It is your God-given right to waste time....' Having celebrated heartily at each and every gathering the evening prior, I yelled out 'Dilly, Dilly!' in full-throated concurrence with our speaker. It should be noted that I also received my diploma wearing my favorite giant moose slippers. They had antlers and everything. No doubt, my parents and my grandma must have swelled with pride as I scaled the stage to receive the parchment. Though well-intended, the speaker's advice could not be more wrong. Our lives are made for integration, for other people. As people designed to be of heart and mind, the dissection of the two causes tragedy and unhappiness. Witness the Prodigal Son. Disintegration is exhausting. The Prodigal Son returns to his father when he realizes that he is unhappy and that his disintegration has wasted precious time. Let us open ourselves to Lenten integration and return without excuse to the God Who loves us. To paraphrase the eternal wisdom of the movie *Animal House*, *a life of dissipation is no way to go through life, son.*

God Bless you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



***Thank You for Your Stewardship of Time, Talent  
and Treasure!***

Weekly Collection for March 23-24: \$6,021.25



### ***Easter Egg Hunt***

Save the Date! We will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20. More details to follow! If you're interested in helping with this fun event, please contact Kay at [kaykiernan95@yahoo.com](mailto:kaykiernan95@yahoo.com) or Emmanuelle at [efleur@gmail.com](mailto:efleur@gmail.com).



**Monday, April 1: Saint Hugh of Grenoble**  
8:15 am- Judy Kay Helstrom

**Tuesday, April 2: Saint Francis of Paola**  
8:15 am- Deacon Tony Chiocco

**Wednesday, April 3: Saint Benedict the African**  
8:15 am- Diane DiPalo

**Thursday, April 4: Saint Isidore of Seville**  
8:15 am- Ann Nicolette

**Friday, April 5: Saint Vincent Ferrer**  
8:15 am- Rosemarie Raiola

**Saturday, April 6: Saint Crescentia Hoess**  
8:15 am- Robert Keenan

5:00 pm- Maureen Brodeur

**Sunday, April 7: Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 am- Paul Falcone

11:00 am- Maria Woodruff

7:00 pm- Tyler Rodimer



### ***Mass Cards***

Having a Mass offered is a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or for any special intention you may have. Mass Cards can be obtained by visiting the Parish Office Monday - Wednesday between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.



### ***Prayers for the Sick***

Please join us in praying for all who are ill in our community, and in a particular way for Phil Barrett, Mary Murphy and Brian Smith. May God bring them and their families His healing, comfort and peace. If you would like to have your name or that of a loved one included in the request for healing prayers in our weekly bulletin, please send an email to [smarshall@stmnj.org](mailto:smarshall@stmnj.org).



### ***Meet the Knights of Columbus - April 7***

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be stopping by after the 11 am Mass next Sunday to offer doughnuts, coffee and chocolate milk and answer any questions there might be about joining the Knights. All men are welcome!



### ***How Well Do You Know Saint Thomas More?***

St. Thomas More shared some thoughts on living our lives and accepting the challenges and suffering that may come our way:

“I think that if any good thing shall go forward, something must be adventured.” *A Dialogue Concerning Heresies* by St. Thomas More

“We cannot go to heaven in featherbeds.” *Life of Thomas More* by William Roper



### ***Food and Fellowship for Single Parishioners***

Calling all single parishioners! Please join us for our next monthly gathering this Tuesday, April 2, at 12:30 pm at Olive Garden Restaurant, 277 Eisenhower Parkway, Livingston – The Village (off the Livingston Circle). It will again be a no-host (i.e. each attendee will pay for his/her meal) luncheon and fellowship gathering. Please contact Monika Mangan at 973-451-1499 for more information and/or to RSVP.



### ***First Friday Eucharistic Adoration***

We hope you'll join us on Friday, April 5 for Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Exposition at 8:30 am and concluding with Benediction at Noon. It's a great way to stop and reflect during this Lenten season. Whether you can come for hours or even just 10 minutes, all are invited to spend some quiet time with Jesus.



### ***Mark Davis's Music Ministry Notes***

For Lent, music is changed to reflect the more subdued character of the season. In lieu of the Gospel Acclamation, “Alleluia,” “Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ,” is sung. As in years past, the Kyrie is also being sung as part of the Penitential Rite. Additionally, the Agnus Dei is being sung. The Latin words mean, “Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,” with verses 1 and 2 ending with, “Have mercy on us,” and the conclusion being, “Grant us peace.” A rough phonetic guide to its pronunciation is:

*Ahn-nyoos-deh-eh-yee, kwee toe-lihs peh-cah-tah muhn-dee: (verses 1 and 2:) Mih-seh-reh-reh noe-bees (the ending of verse 3:) Doe-nah noe-bees pah-chem.*

From the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, it's a beautiful prayer melody. It works well in Latin- not so much in English.



### ***Laetere Sunday – A Joyful Pause***

“Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast.” Isaiah 66:10-11. From this entrance antiphon, to the small flowers adorning the altar to the rose-colored vestments donned by the priest, we notice that things are a little different today. It is a day in the midst of the desert, of the fasting and penance of Lent, in which the Church expresses joy and hope. It is a reminder, even as we are in our darkest hours, that sin and despair never have the final word. Our Lenten practices have a purpose, an end game. The miracle of Easter is coming, together with the promise of new life. So on this day we take a moment not only to reflect but to rejoice. God loves us! It doesn't get any better than that.



### ***Encounter Kumba***

This week we encounter Kumba from Sierra Leone, who, through her education, is providing hope for her family and community. How has education given you opportunities in life? How do you use your education for the common good? Visit [csrricebowl.org](http://csrricebowl.org) for more.



### ***Welcome Home to Healing***

All Catholic Churches in Morris, Sussex and Passaic counties (including St. Thomas More) will have their doors open for Confession every Monday night from March 11 through April 8 between 7 and 8:30 p.m. as part of the Welcome Home to Healing program. Let us be inspired by the story we hear of the Prodigal Son this week, trusting that no matter how sinful and unworthy we may feel we are, God is waiting in His mercy to welcome us home. All are encouraged to experience this Sacrament!



### ***Stations of the Cross***

Stations of the Cross will continue at 7 pm each Friday during Lent in the Church. It's a perfect opportunity at the end of a busy week to spend some time with Jesus and join fellow parishioners in this Lenten journey. All ages are always welcome!