

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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 19, 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)
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019**

I give you a new commandment....

Newness connotes luster, attractiveness and hope. We like new stuff. Be it that fresh cup of dark roast with an Everything bagel in the morning, a new episode of your favorite series or even the first pitch of a new Mets season, novelty resonates and refreshes. A new member of the British royal family has just been born and baby Archie's newness piques fascination around the world. In the late 1970's my dad purchased his beloved, new Buick Electra 225. We made the sign of the cross every time we gazed upon this vehicle he dubbed, 'The Prince's Chariot.' This Buick managed six gallons per mile in all her resplendent, shimmering, lime-green glory. So in addition to being environmentally conscious, this car also screamed aesthetics. Tethered to the cigarette lighter was a pragmatic plastic bag for food items deemed contraband in the Chariot. How blessed was my mom to be ferried about as Queen in this stunning vehicle? And yet Mom never let her exalted status go to her head. This Buick was new, and now all things were possible. But today Jesus gives us something new which doesn't feel so exciting. At the Last Supper He gives us a new commandment, saying *love one another as I have loved you*. Umm...hey, Jesus, got a minute? Jesus, I like new stuff, but let's not get crazy. Let's not do anything rash. To love as You love, that means I have to live in self-gift and self-forgetfulness. To love as You do, that means that my life is not about me. This new commandment is going to impact me. After the Boston Marathon bombing, Cardinal O'Malley reminded us of today's distinctly Christian Commandment: *we must build a civilization of love or there will be no civilization at all*. As the consequences of 'choice' without Truth decimate innocent lives in our culture, we are given a new Commandment. This is a tough sell, but we knew that going in. Perhaps the late legend Fr. Ronald Knox encourages us again: *Our work is to colonize heaven while others breed for Utopia* (Knox, *The Belief of Catholics*). Archie may never ride in a new Buick, but we are always new in Christ. We remember the risk God has taken on us in love. May we do the same.

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



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

Weekly Collection for May 11-12: \$5,221.25



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Monday, May 20: Saint Bernardine of Siena

8:15 am- Gloria LaTorre

Tuesday, May 21: Saint Cristóbal Magallanes and Companions

8:15 am- Maureen Brodeur

Wednesday, May 22: Saint Rita of Cascia

8:15 am- Arletta Colonna

Thursday, May 23: Saint Gregory VII

8:15 am- James Hart

Friday, May 24: Saint Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi

8:15 am- Andrew Gallagher

Saturday, May 25: Saint Bede the Venerable

8:15 am- Ron Morris

5:00 pm- Thomas Briscoe

Sunday, May 26: Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am- Brian Marshall

11:00 am- Robert Wilkinson

****THERE WILL BE NO 7 PM MASS ON MAY 26****

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week in honor of Thomas Briscoe.



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, Florence Kearney, Mary Murphy and Janet Romano. 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 Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org.



We are blessed to welcome Gabriel Chang and Alexander Lawrence to the table of the Lord for the first time this Sunday at the 11 am Mass. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers and join us in congratulating them!



Women's Guild News

Next Meeting

The Women's Guild will meet next on Tuesday, May 28th at 7:00 pm in the Basement Meeting Room. At this month's meeting we'll have a special treat— a reading of the play *Quarters* written by our own Norma Mortimer. All women are most welcome!

Luncheon

The Women's Guild will hold its end-of-the-year luncheon on June 5th at 12:30 pm at The Serenade, 6 Roosevelt Avenue, Chatham. The cost is \$40.00 per person. All women are invited to attend. If you'd like to join us, please R.S.V.P. to Pat Briscoe at 973-267-8276 or Bridie Murphy at 973-539-5008.



Help "Spruce Up" Saint Thomas More - Only a Few Trees Left!

Your generosity brought relief to our parish through the new HVAC System. Now to beautify the area, we will plant ten spruce trees around the HVAC Unit. This provides a unique opportunity to offer a living tribute to benefit the St. Thomas More community. With each donation of \$550.00 we will plant a tree and include a plaque on which you can remember a loved one, honor friends or family members or memorialize a special event or occasion. For more information or to make a donation, please call or email the Parish Office. Go green, beautify your parish and offer a memorial that will live on...



The Church of St. Thomas More

Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 and Ending June 30, 2019

The following is a Financial Report for the Parish for the nine months ended March 31, 2019 of the current Fiscal Year as compared to the same period in 2018. As you can see from the table below, the Parish has experienced a net operating loss of \$83,065 for the period under review, due primarily to a decrease in offertory collections and continued extraordinary facility repairs. To help defray the operating costs of the Parish and make up the shortfall, we seek the help of our Parishioners to be as generous as you can with the offertory collections.

<u>Nine Months</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	\$447,670	\$380,412	(\$67,258)
Total Expenses	\$325,468	\$463,477	\$138,009
Profit/loss	\$122,202	(\$83,065)	

Total Parish Income for the comparative periods under review decreased by \$67,258. This was primarily due to a shortfall in offertory and special collections of \$44,078, non-recurring insurance proceeds received in the prior fiscal year of \$15,533 and a one-time bequest received in the prior fiscal year of \$5,000.

Total Parish Expenses for the comparative periods under review increased by \$138,009. This was primarily attributable to extraordinary building repairs and maintenance costs of \$175,430 for: the installation of the new HVAC unit; repairs to the flat roofing to correct leaks; renovations to the present Church bathroom and for plans to add an additional bathroom. These building costs were offset in part by savings realized in clergy and lay salaries and benefits, and savings in miscellaneous ministry and liturgical expenses.

Your continued support will provide the Parish with much needed financial resources to meet operational and facility needs. The Parish faces critical building projects. A portion of the Church roof needs replacement and the bathroom upgrades need to be completed. In addition, the new HVAC unit requires fencing installation and new landscaping on the Madison Avenue side of the Church. Our Pastor, Father Tom, will mention these parish projects during his weekly announcements. We welcome and truly appreciate your financial help in these efforts.