

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.

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – December 29, 2019

Parish Staff

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

Fr. Joe Davis
Weekend Assistant

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski
In Residence
lionheartdan@gmail.com

Pat Schell
Parish Secretary
secretary@stmnj.org

Mark Davis
Music - Organist
732-340-0190

Frank Miles
Trustee

Mary Murphy
Trustee

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
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, 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, Tuesday or Thursday, or send an email to info@stmnj.org. We'd love to welcome you!!



Blast From the Past(or)
The Feast of the Holy Family
December 29, 2019

The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.....

Merry Christmas! On this beautiful post-Christmas Feast, we can't help but notice that our dear St. Joseph is not sleeping well. While trying to run a business, he has constant, life-altering dreams telling him that while his wife's pregnancy is not his, divorce is not an option for him, that King Herod wants to kill that Child, and that, oh, yeah, he's getting evicted: he has to take the Child and His Mother to Egypt until he's told to move again. Two words for St. Joseph: *My Pillow*. Get one, brother. I own one and I swear by it. I apologize if I sound flippant, but I'm just pulling for St. Joseph to get a solid eight hours. I mean, c'mon, I think we can agree that Mary and Joseph have a full plate. Such is the focus of today's Feast. If you are under the gun, at your wits' end, at the breaking point and perhaps can't handle much more, this Feast is for you. The New Year brings the encouragement of Christmas and the exhortation of the Holy Family to all who are stretched. As God unfolds in Joseph's restless nights, the Father is also fashioning your life in the form of The Child born for all. Last year, I read an editorial in the *Washington Post* entitled, *Please Don't Wish Me a Merry Christmas* (*Washington Post*, December 21, 2018). I felt badly for the author of this article. Perhaps she has some St. Joseph-like chaos in her life. But she argued that *Merry Christmas* is a presumptive proclamation. On that point, I would agree with her. *Merry Christmas* is indeed a pledge that everyone, including non-believers, are included in the Mission of The Baby born in straw poverty. These glad tidings are for all.

Merry Christmas!!!

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



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

Due to early printing deadlines, the collection information for December 21-22 and the Christmas collection will appear in next week's bulletin.



2020 Parish Directory

Have you signed up yet? Professional photographers will be at St. Thomas More to take family or individual photos for our 2020 parish directory on January 23, 24 and 25. Sign-up after Mass or contact Jolie Elmore to reserve your spot at 201-589-7700 or jolieandjosh@gmail.com.



Monday, December 30: Saint Egwin

8:15 am- Umberto Reyes

Tuesday, December 31: Saint Sylvester I

8:15 am- Robert Keenan

7:00 pm (Vigil for the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God)- Carm Sautter

Wednesday, January 1: Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

8:15 am- Anna Caporella

12:10 am- Lena Scialla

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO 7 PM MASS

Thursday, January 2: Saint Basil the Great

8:15 am- Maureen Brodeur

Friday, January 3: Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:15 am- Ruth Whelan

Saturday, January 4: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:15 am- Penny Capron

5:00 pm- Rosemarie Raiola

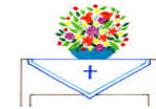
Sunday, January 5: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am- Janis Murphy

11:00 am- Umberto Reyes

7:00 pm- Joseph and Vera Leva

If you are a family member or friend of the person being remembered at a Sunday Mass, please feel free to approach an usher and offer to bring up the gifts.



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, Tuesday or Thursday 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, Bob Bass, Karen Cutaneo, Fred Donikowski, Paul Gamerdinger, Florence Kearney, Barbara Kline, Anne Morrison, Christopher Popp, Edmond Sherry and Flynn Sullivan. 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.



The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

As a reminder, the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is this Wednesday, January 1. The Mass schedule is the same as other Holy Days, that is:

Tuesday, December 31 (Vigil) - 7 pm

Wednesday, January 1 - 8:15 am and 12:10 pm



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

Join us on Friday, January 3 for Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Exposition at 8:30 am and concluding with Benediction at Noon. It's a beautiful way to start the New Year! Whether you can come for hours or even just 10 minutes, all are invited to spend some quiet time with Jesus.



Reflection for a New Year

The end of a year can be a difficult time-- perhaps there is regret about past mistakes made or goals not fully realized, fear about what the upcoming months may bring or heartache at the memory of those lost along the way.

A New Year comes upon us during the darkest days of the year, those with the fewest hours of sunlight and often some of the coldest nights.

Yet a New Year also arrives at a time, a season, when we are reminded of the greatest gifts, the gifts we have received from our loving Father...the gift of His love, and, through this little Baby born for us in the midst of a dark, silent night, the gift of *Hope*.

Hope inspires us to make resolutions, to make plans, to celebrate with full hearts all that has gone before, both good and bad, and all that is yet to come. Despite the dark and the chill, as we remember all that has been, hope allows us to look forward to all that will be, with faith.

Rather than letting old acquaintance be forgot, may we follow the example of our Blessed Mother by keeping them and all moments of our past, reflecting on them in our hearts. Let us approach this New Year in hope, remembering, knowing, the promise born of a little Baby as spoken by the angel, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Fear not- there *will* be great joy. Happy New Year!!



Catholic Charities Giving Tree - Thank you!!!

A huge *thank you* to all who donated gifts to the Giving Tree for Catholic Charities. What a touching sight the vestibule was filled with so many amazing presents! And a special thank you to Tom and Coleen Connor, our parish elves, for donating their own decorations and time to transform our little tree into such a beautiful beacon of the wonder of Christmas. Thank you all for sharing God's love by helping to bring joy to those less fortunate this Christmas season through your generosity. God bless you!



Bishop's Annual Appeal - "For I Was Hungry"

As the year comes fast to an end and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Bishop's Annual Appeal - as either a contributor to the cause or as a recipient of its mission - and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Bishop's Annual Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit cards, through gifts of securities or on-line at www.2019appeal.org. If you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA, you can receive a tax benefit by instructing your IRA investment manager to donate your required minimum distribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at 973-777-8818, ext. 218 for additional details and also consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

Please Note the Parish Office will be closed on December 31 and January 1. It will reopen at 9 am on Thursday, January 2. Wishing everyone a New Year filled with good health, joy and all of God's many blessings!