

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 Advent – December 19, 2021

Parish Staff

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.
Pastor

tfallone@stmnj.org

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski
In Residence
lionheartdan@gmail.com

Tina Jurgaitis
Parish Bookkeeper
tjurgaitis@stmnj.org

Blaze Dalio
Music Director

Frank Miles
Trustee

Mary Murphy
Trustee

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am and 11:00 am and 7:00 pm [from Labor Day through Memorial Day, with the exception of holiday weekends]

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday at 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 email smarshall@stmnj.org or submit the Baptism Request Form at: <https://stmnj.org/baptism-request-form> for more information. Arrangements should be made at least 8 weeks in advance of the desired date.

Funeral Rites: Please contact Father Tom for more information and to make arrangements.

Marriage: Please email smarshall@stmnj.org or submit the Marriage Request Form at <https://stmnj.org/marriage-request-form> for more information. 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 complete the new parishioner form at <https://stmnj.org/membership-information> or call the Parish Office at 973-267-5330. We'd love to welcome you!!



Blast from the Past(or)
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 2021

One Who is to be ruler of Israel whose origin is from old, from ancient times...

Christmas is a long foretold reality, ever ancient and ever new, of the acceptance of our Salvation as a Newborn Child! Unfolding in history, God's Covenant arrives in time! Pretty cool! We know that our personal history is not as clean, tidy or pristine as we care to admit. But, there's the cool, again! Because, while many over the centuries try to deny history and craft it to their liking, broken reality remains, touched by God. Some in our own hour remove statues from statehouses and public squares to affirm their sensibilities. But Christmas makes it clear that God knows what went down in history. The Fourth Sunday of Advent reminds us that reality is God's portal, despite our shock and disbelief. Elizabeth's pregnancy is weird. That can't be right. And yet God uses her anomaly to foreshadow Christmas. Mary's pregnancy could be perceived as scandalous, in a word. And yet God deigned it as the medium of our Faith. History is replete with twists and turns touched by God! Humanity has a long, odd history in which God is traveling! The history of our family of origin is bumpy and interesting. But such is God's canvas. This is what makes it a 'happy holiday,' and why we have the courage to say, **Merry Christmas!!!!!!**

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



Mass Intentions/Mass Cards

If you'd like to request a Mass to be said for a loved one, please email Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org, complete our online Mass request form at <https://stmnj.org/request-a-mass-card> or click on the link on our home page. Please try to provide at least 24 hours' notice for a card to allow adequate time. In your request please let us know if you'd like us to mail the card to you or directly to the recipient, or to leave it for you to pick it up. Our Mass intentions are finalized at least one week in advance so please understand we unfortunately may not always be able to accommodate last-minute requests.



Monday, December 20 - Saint Dominic of Silos

Hugh Marriott

Tuesday, December 21 - Saint Peter Canisius

Kathleen Grouss

Wednesday, December 22 - Blessed Jacopone Da Todi

Robert Grubbs

Thursday, December 23 - Saint John of Kanty

Bob Bass

Friday, December 24 - Christmas at Greccio

8:15 am: Joseph Rotondi

4:00 pm: Pauline Falcone, Mary Miller, Terry Manelski and People of the Parish

6:30 pm: Anna McLaughlin and Helen Marie Chajkowski

Midnight: Carmen Liuzza, Jr.

Saturday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am: Theodore and Mary Hoffman

11:00 am: Theresa Gallagher

THERE IS NO 7 PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 26 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8 am: Robert Grubbs

11 am: Helen Moran

7 pm: Michael Gloria



Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in praying for all who are ill in our community, and in a particular way for Chris Auger, Phil Barrett, Fred Donikowski, Barbara Kline, Ray Meyers, Lorraine Zedalis Moschini, John O'Neil, Bobby Polidore, Christopher Popp, Bethann and Bob Panzer, Eileen Scheibner, Gloria Souchuk, Flynn Sullivan and Marlene Widmer. 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 (or removed from) the request for healing prayers in our weekly bulletin, please send an email to Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org.



An Evening of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

All are welcome to join us this Monday, December 20 in the church for prayer and reflection in remembrance and celebration of our loved ones who have passed away. It will be a beautiful way to celebrate the Advent and Christmas seasons with those who are no longer with us in person, but always with us in spirit.

Ministry News

Reminder to All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

Each month, all who have indicated they would like to serve will receive links to sign-up via Flocknotes for your desired Mass(es). If you do not receive the links, or would like to join either (or both!) ministry for the first time, please reach out to Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org. Thank you so much, as always, for your service to St. Thomas More!



2021 Diocesan Ministries Appeal

With the year coming to an end, many people plan to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact. Please consider the Diocesan Ministries Appeal which helps so many of your brothers and sisters in Christ. In fact, tens of thousands of people are supported each year by the work of our Diocese with assistance from the Appeal. All of us can play a part in the Diocesan Ministries 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 Diocesan Ministries 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.2021appeal.org. May God bless you for your generosity!

Scripture Study Group

All are welcome to join the STM Scripture Study Group meeting on Tuesday, January 4 at 3:00 PM in the church. Our program is based on the video, “The Wild Goose” about the work of the Holy Spirit. The second segment of the video is about:

“The Spirit of the Sacraments”

Following the video we will share how this aspect of the Holy Spirit’s activity affects our own lives and faith. For further information or questions, call Frank Miles at 973-538-6554 or email to lexan@ix.netcom.com



Supporting St. Thomas More

A continued “thank you” to all who have continued to support our parish during these challenging times. For those looking for a way to provide financial support, you can contribute through the following channels:

- Collections can be dropped in the basket at Sunday Mass.
- You can mail your contribution to the parish office at St. Thomas More Parish, 4 Convent Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960
- You can quickly set up a one-time or recurring donation online by going to: <https://stthommore.weshareonline.org/>
- You can set up a contribution online through the Diocese’s site, at helpmyparish.thankyou4caring.org. Select “St. Thomas More Church – Convent Station” and make either a one-time gift or a weekly recurring donation.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Reminder- Current Mass Protocols

- Occupancy restrictions for social distancing have been lifted, and masks are not required for those who are vaccinated.
- We will continue to block off some pews on the outer sections of our church for anyone who may not yet be comfortable worshipping without masks and social distancing. **Kindly do not sit in those seats unless you wear a mask and keep distance from others in those sections.** Please be considerate of those who may be particularly vulnerable to illness, or are returning to Mass for the first time in months or may not otherwise be comfortable.
- Anyone who would still like to wear a mask is welcome to do so.
- We will continue to make hand sanitizer available.
- Distribution of the Precious Blood remains suspended at this time, and everyone is encouraged to receive Holy Communion in the hand.
- We’ll continue to have a basket in the back of the church rather than taking a collection during Mass.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to do our best to comply with all guidelines and keep everyone as safe and comfortable as possible.

Prayer of Christmas Past, Present, and Future



*Gracious God,
We turn to you in wonder and praise as
we celebrate Christmas.*

*Remind us during this sacred season of our
collective story. May our roots extend deep
into the soil of faith and spread outwards to
share the Good News of Christ's coming.*

*Focus our attention so that we remain
attuned to the sights, sounds, and sensations
of the season. May the presence of Christ be
at the forefront of our thoughts and actions
as we enact each holiday ritual.*

*Fill us with hope in the continuous birthing of
Christ in our world. May we never lose sight
of the promise of the Kingdom of peace and
compassion that is both present and yet to be.*

*With gratitude in our hearts, we pray.
Amen.*



Advent/Christmas Season Schedule

**Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

Tuesday, December 7 (Vigil) - 7 pm

Wednesday, December 8 - 8:15 am and 12:10 pm

Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 14 - 7 pm

Opportunity for individual Confessions will follow the service.

Evening of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

Monday, December 20 - 7 pm

All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection in remembrance and celebration of our loved ones who have passed away.

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 pm, 6:30 pm and Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 am and 11:00 am

(Please note there will be NO 7 PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.)

Masses for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, December 26 - 8 am, 11 am and 7 pm

Masses for the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Friday, December 31 (Vigil) - 7 pm

Saturday, January 1 - 8:15 am



Thank you to all who made such kind and generous donations to
this year's **Christmas Flowers and Decorations!**

*Let us remember those listed below in our prayers throughout this Christmas
season.*

Given in Memory / Honor of Jack Anderson and Family, and the Hayes and Smith
Families by Mrs. John Anderson.

Given in Memory / Honor of Leonard by Patricia Bendzin.

Given in Memory / Honor of John Carlin and the Gerhard Family by Mrs. John
Carlin.

Given in Memory of Anne J. Morrison by Karen Cutaneo.

Given in Memory / Honor of the LaCosta Family and the Davino Family by Mr. &
Mrs. Anthony Davino.

Given in Memory / Honor of the Murray and Deysher Families by Mrs. Margaret
Deysher & Nyree.

Given in Memory/Honor of Anselmo Dias by Alwyn Dias.

Given in Memory/Honor of Anselmo Dias by Mrs. Anselmo Dias.

Given in Memory / Honor of Eugene J. & Edith S. Farrell, Howard & Mary Finely,
the Sears Family, and Deceased Family & Friends by Mary Ellen Farrell.

Given in Memory / Honor of Vincent Formicola, Cosmio Gutto, Alice Gutto and
Teresa Lynd by Dr. & Mrs. Formicola.

Given in Memory / Honor of Mrs. Pauline Falcone by Ms. Barbara Glogolich.

Given in Memory / Honor of Michael & Barbara Cherello, Mercedes Blass and Tom Web by Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Kelly.

Given in Memory / Honor of the Walsh Family by Mrs. Virginia Lund.

Given in Memory of Philip Cucchiaia, Elizabeth Cucchiaia, Thomas Manna Sr., and Anne Steele by Ms. Phyllis Manna.

Given in Memory / Honor of the McAllister Family, the Reilly Family, the O'Neill Family and the Vogelbeger Family by Mr. & Mrs. William A. McAllister.

Given in Memory / Honor of Andrew & Mary Molamphy, Tom, Pat & Noel Molamphy, Margaret Cummins, and Bernie O'Brien by Mrs. Mary Murphy.

Given in Memory / Honor of Bea Kippley, Rob Estrada, and John Duetch by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Penizotto.

Given in Memory of Rose DeMarco and Mary Sczyrek by Joe & Sarah Sczyrek.

Given in Memory / Honor of Peter & Julia Rend by Mrs. Julia Skinner.

Given in Memory / Honor of Pauline Falcone by Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Trunk.

Given in Memory of Betty & Walter Wary, Jr., Catherine & Walter Wary, Sr., Stella & John Zadrozny, Sr., and Joseph & Jane Dondzila by Mrs. Walter Wary.

Given in Memory of Mildred Hasten, Herbert Hasten, Stella Zadrozny, and John Zadrozny by Mr. & Mrs. John Zadrozny.

Generous Donations also received from:

Ms. Marie Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Critchley

A. James & Eileen Kelly

Mr. & Mrs. Desmond Lloyd

Mrs. Herbert Schmidt

Mr. Greg Spinelli

Mary & Theresa Tomeo

WINTER MARKET

— Presented by —


GROW it
GREEN
MORRISTOWN

Shop local at the Winter Farmers Market

SUNDAYS 9:30 AM - 1 PM

December 5, 2021* - March 27, 2022

NEW LOCATION:
CONVENT TRAIN STATION
Convent Road, Morris Township



OUTSIDE MARKET - FREE PARKING - FREE ADMISSION

COVID-19 POLICIES IN PLACE

growitgreennorristown.org/wintermarket

*Closed December 26





Prayer for the Year of St. Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph,
do we come in our afflictions,
and having implored the help of your
most holy Spouse,
we confidently invoke your patronage also.
Through that charity which bound you
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God
and through the paternal love with which
you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard
the inheritance which Jesus Christ has
purchased by his Blood, and with your
power and strength to aid us
in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
O most loving father, ward off from us
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;
O our most mighty protector, be kind to us
and from heaven assist us in our struggle
with the power of darkness.
As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares
of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too,
each one of us by your constant protection,
so that, supported by your example and your aid,
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

Year of St. Joseph (December 8, 2020 - December 8, 2021)