# 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.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – May 29, 2022

# Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am and 11:00 am and 7:00 pm [from the weekend after Labor Day through the weekend before 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 info@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 info@stmmj.org or submit the Marriage Request Form at https://stmmj.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 <a href="https://stmnj.org/membership-information">https://stmnj.org/membership-information</a> or call the Parish Office at 973-267-5330. We'd love to welcome you!!

# Parish Staff

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

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski In Residence lionheartdan@gmail.com

Tina Jurgaitis
Parish Bookkeeper
tiurgaitis@stmni.org

Frank Miles Trustee

Mary Murphy Trustee



# Blast from the Past(or) Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord May 29, 2022

It is not for you to know the times and seasons that the Father has established by His own authority...

Well, there you have it: we are on a 'need-to-know' basis in God's unfolding plan of Salvation. While the signs of God's Presence and Promise are all around us, the Ascension reminds us that Faith is Trust, not certainty. Such is the core of the Christian pilgrimage marked by ups and downs. Christ goes 'up' to Jerusalem and is later lifted 'up' high on the Cross. He is ultimately taken 'up' into Heaven, Ascending to His Heavenly Father, as the Apostles agape, look 'up' into the sky. Conversely, the Holy Spirit descends to the Apostles following the manner in which Gabriel descends to Mary in the Annunciation. Jesus, too, descends into Hell, as we recall. Many years ago, when my niece was a little kid, she had a fish tank. One of the fish was named 'Up and Down.' Curious, I asked her what's with that name? She replied, 'because, sometimes he swims up, and sometimes he swims down.' Q.E.D. on that one. A six-year old explained to me the wisdom of our Faith and the trajectory of Christian Salvation. On this Ascension, we remember that all this 'up and down' does not require Dramamine, but Faith. This Jesus Who has been taken up from you into Heaven will return in the same way as you have seen Him going into heaven....

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



#### Thank You for Your Generous Contributions!

We are very grateful for all who contribute to the financial support of our parish and who take stewardship seriously.

Weekend Collection for May 21-22:

\$5,559.00

"Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7)



## Women's Guild

The Women's Guild will be holding their annual spring luncheon on Wednesday, June 8 at 1:00 pm at Restaurant Serenade in Chatham. The cost is \$50.00 per person. Please RSVP to Bridie Murphy or Pat Briscoe if you're interested in coming. All checks should be made out to The St. Thomas More Women's Guild and can be mailed or given to Ginny Lund. All women are welcome to join for a nice afternoon!



May 30 - Saint Joan of Arc

Oscar Granflor and Helen McCarthy Enright

May 31 - Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Arefayne Natnael

June 1 - Saint Justin Martyr Carlos Berrio

June 2 - Saints Marcellinus and Peter Mary-Alice Shortall

June 3 - Saints Charles Lwanga and Companions Santo Picione

June 4 - Blessed Angeline of Marsciano Margaret Farkas

June 5 - Pentecost Sunday

8 am: Leonard Bendzin

11 am: Lawrence Tilli



## 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, Anthony Balloutine, 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 info@stmnj.org.



# Mass Intentions/Mass Cards

If you'd like to request a Mass to be said for a loved one, please email <a href="mailto:info@stmnj.org">info@stmnj.org</a>, complete our online Mass request form at <a href="https://stmnj.org/request-a-mass-card">https://stmnj.org/request-a-mass-card</a> 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 or 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.



# The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church

In November 2021, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a new document entitled, *The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church*. In the following weeks, we'll be taking a more in-depth look at this document and its message to the Church. To prepare for these reflections, let's take a few moments this week to join in the following prayer from the USCCB:

May the Sacraments Move Us to Love and Serve

Loving Father,
Open our hearts to hidden realities:
your love for all people,
your presence in the community,
your call to justice and peace.
May the sacraments stir in us
that same love for those with whom we worship
and all members of our human family.

Christ Jesus,
Help us to imitate your example:
healing the sick,
welcoming the stranger,
assisting the poor and vulnerable.
May the sacraments remind us
of your love and self-giving,
which we strive to imitate.

Holy Spirit,
Make visible to our eyes what is invisible:
your call to your people,
your summons to live our faith daily
as witnesses of justice and peace.
May the sacraments move us
to engage in love-inspired action

#### Amen.

that transforms us and the world.

For more information regarding the celebrations of this year in our Diocese, please check out the Diocesan page at <a href="https://rcdop.org/year-of-the-eucharist">https://rcdop.org/year-of-the-eucharist</a> or use the QR Code below.





# We Honor our Blessed Mother in a Special Way During this Month of May

## Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Life

The Response is: Mary, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of all Life,

help us to respect human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death. R.

Mary, Mother of Compassion, You showed us how valuable a single life can be; Help us to guard and protect the lives of all people entrusted to our care. R.

Mary, Mother of the Child Jesus, with St. Joseph you formed the Holy Family. Guard and protect all families in this earthly life. R.

Mary, Mother Most Holy,

You sanctified the vocation of motherhood; Pour out your heavenly aid on all mothers and help them to be holy. R.

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, Simeon's prophecy foretold that a sword of suffering would pierce your heart;

Bring comfort and hope to all mothers who suffer over their children. R.

Mary, Full of Grace,

You had a choice in responding to God's call; Help us always to say "Yes" to the will of God in our lives, And strive always to do whatever he tells us. R.

Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted,
Pour forth your heavenly grace on all who are in need of
God's healing, especially those involved in abortion;
Help them to experience the love and mercy of Christ,
your Son. R.

Mary, Intercessor and Advocate,
We lift up the poor, the displaced, the marginalized and
vulnerable members of society;

Help them to never abandon hope, but to place their trust in the God who gave them life. R.

Mary, Mother of the Word Incarnate, you bore in your womb him whom the heavens cannot contain; Help us to bear witness to Christ by the example of our lives and show the world the extravagant love of God. R.

#### All:

Remember, o most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To you we come, before you we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer them.

#### Amen.

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



# First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

We hope you'll join us this Friday, June 3 for Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Exposition at 8:30 am and concluding with Benediction at Noon. Whether you can come for hours or even just 10 minutes, all are invited to spend some quiet time with Jesus.



## Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth Golf Outing

Please support the mission of charity by joining the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth for their 14th Annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 20th at Cedar Hill Golf & Country Club in Livingston, New Jersey. Registration fee of \$400 per golfer includes brunch, golf, cocktails and dinner. Brunch only or dinner only guests are also welcome. Visit www.scnj.org, text SCNJGOLF2022 to 41444, or call 973-290-5454 for further information.



# Father Joe Davis's Anniversary Mass

All are welcome to join Father Joe Davis for a Mass celebrating this 50th Anniversary of Priesthood at 2 pm on June 5, 2022 here at St. Thomas More. Congratulations to Father Joe!



# **Prayer for Memorial Day**

God of power and mercy, you destroy war and put down earthly pride. Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.

Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord. R/. Amen

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



# Volunteers Needed for STM's 2022-3 Religious Education Program

After a year's hiatus due to a lack of volunteers, we are very excited to be bringing back our religious education program for our elementary school aged students! A special "thank you" to Keith Gatti who will be leading the program. Keith is looking for volunteers to help teach. If interested, please email Keith at keithgatti@gmail.com or call Tina in the parish office. No previous experience is required. Keith will walk you through the process of the Diocesan background check and also obtaining a Protecting God's Children Certificate. More information regarding the Protecting God's Children Program and how to register for an upcoming session can be found at: https://rcdop.org/child-protection. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of helping to reinstitute this vital ministry!



# Annual Corpus Christi Food Drive

It's time again for the Diocese's annual Corpus Christi Food Drive, and the in-person drive is back this year! Continuing through the Feast of Corpus Christi on June 19, we ask you to please consider bringing a donation to help the 3 Catholic Charities food pantries who so desperately need our help. As in years past, each parish has been assigned a specific item. Ours is **Canned Meals** such as beef stew, chili and Chef Boyardee. If you would prefer, you can also make a monetary donation online at ccpaterson.org/corpus. Thank you, as always, for your generosity!



Potential Parish Choir

As we are continuing to actively explore options for the next chapter of our music ministry here at St. Thomas More, one of our resident musicians, Al Olivier, is looking into the possibility of forming a parish choir. Any and all levels of amateur and/or professional voices and musical backgrounds are welcome. For more information, please see the handouts which are available in the church vestibule or contact Al via text at 973/978-4846 or via email at aomusicmind@gmail.com.



Feast of Corpus Christi: Sunday, June 19, 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted those living in poverty the most and Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson's 3 Food Pantries (Father English Center, Paterson; Hope House, Dover; and Partnership for Social Services, Franklin) are giving out more food than ever before.

Most months, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson gives out food to 5,000 - 7,000 people at their 3 food pantries. Through COVID-19 this number has more than quadrupled, with our pantries assisting 20,000 children, women and men monthly! In November of 2022, we gave out food to nearly 29,000 individuals!

Now through the feast of the Corpus Christi (June 19th), you can offer much needed aid to Catholic Charities through our 9th Annual Corpus Christi Food Drive.

This year, we are bringing this event back to a live format. You may click here to view a listing of all parishes in the Diocese of Paterson along with our wish list items.

If your parish, or service group is not listed on this page and you would like to host your own drive, please email info@ccpaterson.org.

You may also make a monetary donation below or mail a donation to:
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson
Corpus Christi Food Drive
777 Valley Road
Clifton, NJ 07013

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Charities and our brothers and sisters in need.

God bless you all!

You can make a one-time or recurring, tax-deductible contribution to support Catholic Charities' 3 food pantries at <a href="https://ccpaterson.org/corpus">https://ccpaterson.org/corpus</a>. Please email: Info@ccpaterson.org, or call 973-279-7100 ext. 2038 for more information.



A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place right now in the Catholic Church. It started in October, 2021 and will culminate in the final Synod Gathering in Rome in October, 2023. The synodal journey is of great significance for the good of both the universal and local Church. During this process, we invite all the People of God to listen to each other, without exception, and with particular care to involve also those who are further away and are perhaps sometimes not included or marginalized.

The synodal journey is a process of listening to one another to recognize the voice of the Holy Spirit. First and foremost, this process is a spiritual process. It is a period of discernment where we listen to each other, to our faith tradition, and to the signs of the times in order to discern what God is saying to all of us. This kind of discernment is not only a one-time exercise but ultimately a way of life, grounded in Christ, following the lead of the Holy Spirit and guided by the teachings of Christ Himself.

You can find more information on the Diocesan Synod Page, <a href="https://rcdop.org/synod-2023">https://rcdop.org/synod-2023</a>, the US Bishops' Synod Site, <a href="https://www.usccb.org/synod">https://www.usccb.org/synod</a>, and the Official Vatican Synod Site, <a href="https://www.synod.va/en.html">https://www.synod.va/en.html</a>. Stay tuned for more updates throughout this process!

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus

Prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit for an ecclesial assembly of governance or discernment (thus synodal)

Every session of the Second Vatican Council began with the prayer Adsumus Sancte Spiritus, the first word of the Latin original meaning, "We stand before You, Holy Spirit," which has been historically used at Councils, Synods and other Church gatherings for hundreds of years, being attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560 - 4 April 636). As we are called to embrace this synodal path of the Synod 2021-2023, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace. For the Synod 2021-2023, we propose to use this simplified version, so that any group or liturgical assembly can pray more easily.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son. forever and ever. Amen.

Title revised from Latin, to have a proper incipit, different from the Advanue Bominus Sancte Spiritus. The Careemoniale Episcoporum 1984os, n. 1173, only proposes the use of the Advanue but does not give the text. The German version Das Zeremoniale für die Bischeffe, n. 1188, gives a German translation based on the Latin text of the Acra Spirodalle of the Council, vol. 11, p. 159.













SUMMER CAMPS

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2022

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