

# *Saint Thomas More Catholic Church*

*4 Convent Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960*

*973- 267-5330*

*[www.stmnj.org](http://www.stmnj.org)*

*[info@stmnj.org](mailto: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.*

## *Second Sunday of Lent - March 5, 2023*

### **Parish Staff**

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.  
Pastor  
[tfallone@stmnj.org](mailto:tfallone@stmnj.org)

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski  
In Residence  
[lionheartdan@gmail.com](mailto:lionheartdan@gmail.com)

Tina Jurgaitis  
Parish Bookkeeper  
[tjurgaitis@stmnj.org](mailto:tjurgaitis@stmnj.org)

Caitlin Ross  
Music Minister

### **Parish Office Hours**

Wednesday - Thursday  
8:30 am - 3:30 pm

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

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm [No 7 pm Mass from the weekend before Memorial Day through the weekend of Labor Day, or on 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, concluding with Benediction at Noon

### ***Additional Sacraments***

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office 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 call the Parish Office 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)***  
**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**March 5, 2023**

*Lord, it is good for us that we are here...*

St. Peter's words are a masterclass in understatement. As the living legend Keith Richards once quipped, 'I'm happy to be here; I'm happy to be anywhere.' It is good for us to be here. From the lows of the desert last week, we now are shown the heights of Jesus's mountaintop Transfiguration. We are happy to be here. But our presence is not a passive one. The Transfiguration is not for peripheral, uninvolved spectators. Unlike Vegas, what happens on Mount Tabor does *not* stay on Mount Tabor. It is to be proclaimed from the rooftops! The Transfiguration gives us an active role in proclaiming the Truth of God, which is the Truth of humanity. That's no small Baptismal task. This mountaintop interlude reminds us that human joy is a relationship with God. And, *that happiness that you are seeking and have a right to enjoy has a Name and a Face. It is Jesus of Nazareth* (Pope Benedict XVI). The Christian life is just that: a personal relationship. The ballast of any plans, programs or policies must be a love affair with Jesus Christ. Jesus is Transfigured before us in order that we might enter into the same. This Lent a festering wound might be cauterized, a relationship restored, a reconciliation reached, a hurt forgiven or a long-held regret finally released to the mercy of God. These can be Lenten Transfigurations. Lord, it is good for us that we are here. You tell 'em, Keith! Rock on, indeed...

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**

**February 18-19: \$5,126.50**

*"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)*



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

You are invited to join fellow single parishioners for their monthly gathering on Friday, March 17th at 12:30 pm at Puleo's Brick Oven, 162 Columbia Turnpike, Florham Park (next to the Little Red Schoolhouse). Contact Monika Mangan at 973-451-1499 for more information and/or to RSVP.



**MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**March 6 - Saint Mary Ann of Jesus of Paredes**

John J. O'Donovan

**March 7 - Saints Perpetua and Felicity**

Joseph Woods

**March 8 - Saint John of God**

Angela Schmidt

**March 9 - Saint Frances of Rome**

Helen Marie Chajkowski

**March 10 - Saint Dominic Savio**

Jean Lawler

**March 11 - Saint John Ogilvie**

Pauline Falcone

**March 12 - Third Sunday of Lent**

8 am: Carmella Gervasio

11 am: Terrance Holleran

7 pm: Brendan O'Reilly



***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, Brendan Briscoe, Fred Donikowski, Barbara Kline, John LaCosta, Gina Lazaro, Ray Meyers, John O'Neil, Bethann and Bob Panzer, Bobby Polidore, Christopher Popp, 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 [info@stmnj.org](mailto:info@stmnj.org) or call the Parish Office.



***Mass Intentions/Mass Cards***

If you would like to request a Mass to be said for a loved one, please complete our online Mass request form at <https://stmnj.org/request-a-mass-card>, click on the link on our home page or call the Parish Office. In your request, please let us know if you would like us to mail the card or leave it for you to pick it up (or if you do not want a card). Our Mass intentions are finalized two weeks in advance, so please understand we unfortunately may not always be able to accommodate last-minute requests.



### Scripture Study Group

All are welcome to join the STM Scripture Study Group meeting on Wednesday, March 8th at 3:00 pm in the church. Our program is based on the “Metanoia” video about deepening our faith. This segment of the video is about:

#### “God is Close”

Following the video we will share how what we have seen affects our own lives and faith. For further information or questions, call Frank Miles at 973-538-6554 or email [lexan@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lexan@ix.netcom.com).

### Ministry Schedule

#### Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers should have received a Flocknote link via email this past week to sign up to serve at March Masses. Please reach out to the Parish Office if you did not receive the link or encounter any issues. Ministers can click on the links in the Flocknote at any time during the month to confirm at which Mass(es) they have registered to serve, which Masses are still available and also to make any changes. We’re always happy to welcome new members, so if you’d like to join either of these vital ministries, please reach out to the Parish Office. Thank you!



### Upcoming Events at Saint Paul Inside the Walls

#### One Way for All Adults – Prayer

##### Beginning Sunday, March 12

This program, offered on Sunday mornings from 9:15 am-10:30 am, is our intermediate-level course in discipleship. All adults 18+ are welcome to join this interactive, small-group experience which aims to bring each participant to a new understanding of Jesus and His Church. Please note: only the first 15 registrants for each three-week topic will be admitted. The next three-week session, entitled, “Prayer” will take place on March 12, March 19 and March 26. For more information or to register, please check out <https://insidethewalls.org/>.



### Welcome Home to Healing

For the 15<sup>th</sup> year, all Catholic Churches in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties (including Saint Thomas More) will have their doors open for Confession between 7:00 pm and 8:30 pm every Monday night in Lent, through March 27, as part of the Welcome Home to Healing Program. It is a beautiful chance to take advantage of this powerful sacrament and prepare ourselves to celebrate the promise of salvation through Christ’s resurrection this Easter.

For more information and resources on how to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please take a look at the Welcome Home to Healing Website at: [www.welcometohomehealing.org](http://www.welcometohomehealing.org). You can also check out the Brief Examination of Conscience below from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (or at: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/Examination-of-Conscience-Ten-Commandments.pdf>).



## A Brief Examination of Conscience

### Based on the Ten Commandments

#### I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.

Have I treated people, events, or things as more important than God?

#### You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or people?

#### Remember to keep holy the Lord’s Day.

Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation (Jan. 1; the Ascension; Aug. 15; Nov. 1; Dec. 8; Dec. 25)? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord’s Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday?

#### Honor your father and your mother.

Do I show my parents due respect? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have?

#### You shall not kill.

Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind?

#### You shall not commit adultery.

Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself?

#### You shall not steal.

Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

#### You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

#### You shall not covet your neighbor’s spouse.

Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

#### You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.

Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?

#### Christ’s Two Commandments

How well do we love God and others? Do we love as Christ calls us to? In the Gospel of Matthew, Christ gives us Two Commandments: “He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments’” (Mt 22:37-40).

Not sure what love is? St. Paul describes it for us in his Letter to the Corinthians. Is this how you love God and others? “Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails” (1 Cor 13:4-8).



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