

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 7, 2023

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

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)
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023

'Do not let your hearts be troubled...'

As a lifelong, diehard Mets and Jets fan, I've often thought those words might be aimed directly at me. I mean, c'mon, a baseball team has a 7-game lead in the NL East with 17 games to play, and then loses 12 of the last 17?! How about a football team that, try as it might, has not had a winning season since 2015?! I must confess, there have been some dark moments of doubt. Yet each year as spring returns, there is new life and hope, with baseball teams starting fresh seasons and football teams making splashy offseason trades (speaking of, hold on to your Jets caps, but I have a hot take—ready? I think that new quarterback they acquired, Aaron-somebody, might just turn out to be pretty decent. Remember, you heard it here first!). These events help me to calm my troubled sports fan heart, break out that foam finger and don that autographed jersey once again. But of course Jesus is not speaking of sports teams. In a world with soaring rates of anxiety, mental illness and suicides, we are surrounded by troubled hearts every day, perhaps even our own. As we are bombarded by news outlets, the internet and social media, we can easily find ourselves wondering, what is the truth? Where are we headed? Is it where we want to be? If not, how do we get where we should really be going? We share Thomas's hesitations, fears and worries, maybe even more so. Christ's well-known reply is quizzical but essential: we learn that the Way, the Truth and the Life is a Person. We acquire our sense of direction from Flesh and Blood. In this Easter season of new life, Jesus reminds us there is reason to hope. *You have faith in God; have faith also in Me.*

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.

Weekly Collection for 4/22-23: \$7,148.50

"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)

@Mass Schedule

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR THE SUMMER!!

Please spread the word that our Sunday evening Mass will be taking a hiatus for the summer. Sunday, May 21, will be our last 7 pm Sunday Mass until after Labor Day.



May 8 – Saint Peter of Tarentaise

Julie McManus

May 9 – Saint John of Avila

Kenneth Pope

May 10 – Saint Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i

Bill and Alma McAllister

May 11 – Saint Ignatius of Laconi

Peggy Farrell

May 12 – Saint Leopold Mandic

John Pappalardo

May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima

John Macko

May 14 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

8 am: Carmella Gervasio and Florence Rich

11 am: Sandy Clyde

7 pm: Bill and Florence Kearney



Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in praying for all who are ill in our community, and in a particular way, for Joan Allen, Chris Auger, Phil Barrett, Brendan Briscoe, Ron Brodeur, Fred Donikowski, Barbara Kline, Gina Lazaro, Ray Meyers, Elizabeth Napoli, John O'Neil, Bethann and Bob Panzer, Bobby Polidore, Christopher Popp, Eileen Scheibner, Gloria Souchuk, 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 (or removed from) the request for healing prayers in our weekly bulletin, please send an email to 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. To make sure your request is received in a timely manner, please do not place requests in the collection. In your request, please let us know if you would like us to mail the card directly to the recipient 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.



During this Month of May, We Celebrate Our Blessed Mother in a Special Way

While we celebrate our earthly mothers next week, the Church has for centuries celebrated our Heavenly Mother throughout this month of May. It is a time when we are called to especially honor and seek the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. May has long been honored as the season of the beginning of new life. In Ancient Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity. In Roman Culture, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms. The tradition of honoring Mary was initially not tied to the month of May, but was part of a celebration called Tricesimum or "Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary," which was held from August 15 to September 14. However, in medieval times, the notion of dedicating a specific month to Mary, with daily spiritual exercises in her honor, was tied to May. This became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and continues today. So as you say your daily prayers this May, it's the perfect time to take maybe just an extra moment, following the path of many devoted Catholics before us, to give thanks to our Blessed Mother for her unfailing love and intercession, and to continue to place our lives in her care.



Scripture Study Group

Video Presentations of Parables of Jesus

All are invited to dramatic recreations of seven parables found in the New Testament, each introduced and placed in its historical and cultural setting. In these videos you will see the Bible come alive, understand the customs and culture behind the parables, and feel the impact of Jesus' message. The second two parables:

The Unmerciful Servant (Mt 18:21-25)

The Manager (Lk 16:1-13)

are presented by the STM Scripture Study Group at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, May 17th in the church.



Food and Fellowship for Single Parishioners

You are invited to join fellow single parishioners for their monthly gathering on Friday, May 19th at 12:30 pm at McLoone's Boathouse, 9 Cherry Lane (corner of Northfield Avenue) in West Orange. Our gathering is a no-host luncheon. Contact Monika Mangan at 973-451-1499 for more information and/or to RSVP.



First Holy Communion - Saturday, May 13

All are warmly invited to join us for the celebration of First Holy Communion here at St. Thomas More next Saturday, May 13 at Noon. *[Please note the time change.]* Even if you are unable to attend, please keep our students in your prayers as they prepare to approach the Table of the Lord for the very first time.



Vocation Resources

As mentioned last week, our Diocesan Office of Vocations has a number of resources for those who might be considering the priesthood or know someone who is. Below is just a sampling of what you can find on their website, <https://patersonvocations.org/>:

Discernment Retreat Podcast: By Father Brett Brannen, Author of, "To Save a Thousand Souls." Offers four podcasts/talks on discerning the priesthood. <https://melchizedekproject.com/podcast/discernment-retreat-with-fr-brannen-session-1/>

Go Priest Website: Discernment Self-Test: Offers a process of rating yourself on 20 qualities or signs as a good way to begin your discernment of priesthood. <https://gopriest.com/discernment-self-test/>

For more information or questions, please contact Rev. Ed Rama, Vocation Director, at 973-777-8818, ext. 715 or Vocations@PatersonDiocese.org.



St. Paul Inside the Walls

Second Annual Garden Party

You are cordially invited to the 2023 Garden Party at St. Paul Inside the Walls. They are excited to join together for what is sure to be a beautiful event on Friday, June 9, starting at 7 pm. Each ticket includes dinner and an open bar. There will also be opportunities to walk away with a bottle of wine from the wine pull as well as silent auction prizes. Your support and presence will help sustain the mission of the Evangelization Office at St. Paul Inside the Walls and the many fulfilling programs and events that are run there. Please register in advance at <https://insidethewalls.org/gardenparty> to purchase tickets, sponsorship or make a donation. To donate a bottle of wine to the 2023 Wine Pull, please visit: <https://woodcliff.cambridgewinesnj.com/collections/wine-pull-st-paul-inside-the-wall>.

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