

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.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 2, 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) **Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** **July 2, 2023**

‘...whoever loses his life for My sake will find it...’

Well that sounds a bit harsh, no? Aren't we trying to recruit more people? Did I hear correctly that to follow Christ requires self-denial and taking up one's Cross? I gotta be honest; I don't know if I am cut out for this 'Christianity' thing. I was looking for a more low-impact program, like perhaps one of those mini exercise bikes that I can use while sitting on the couch eating nachos and binge-watching the latest Netflix series. Is there something like that mentioned in the brochure? In the movie *Stripes*, Dewey Oxburger felt the Army would give him a free, six-to-eight-week training program, which he thought would be perfect for him. How about a mid-range Christianity package that requires no prepaid deposit, offers a generous and flexible cancellation policy, and still includes the basic amenities? Unfortunately, Christianity remains an inconvenient program which includes the possibility of that whole martyrdom thing. For pain-averse folks like me, the Gospel is difficult. Christianity means that our lives are not about us. It is a calling of Christ beyond our own terms and preferences. Geez, where's the fun in that? In a society that so often encourages and even rewards self-aggrandizement, this is not a popular message. Isn't God worried about the potential for negative Yelp reviews?? Yet Christ is the contradiction to our 'selfie' culture. As Jesus's cousin said, *He must increase; I must decrease*. Christ shares in our brokenness and we in His. Such it is to be called Christian, to take up the Cross daily and follow Him. It takes just one little act of love, to give 'only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because he is a disciple...' To carry your Cross is to participate in the Passion. Your image is not the ego, but the Imago. This is not easy. It will cost you your life, but you will not lose your reward.

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 6/17-18: \$8,967.38

"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)



July 3 – Saint Thomas

Ted Medvetz

July 4 – Saint Elizabeth of Portugal

Theresa Gallagher

Jean LaRoche

John Macko

July 5 – Saint Anthony Zaccaria

Bill Austin

July 6 – Saint Maria Goretti

Special Intention

July 7 – Blessed Emmanuel Ruiz and Companions

Margaret Mary O'Kane

July 8 – Saint Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

John LaCosta

July 9 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 am: Leonard Bendzin

11 am: Mary Wall



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). If you do not want a card mailed directly to the recipient but would like one with a blank envelope, it will be left for you to pick up in the parish vestibule. Our Mass intentions are finalized two weeks in advance, so please understand we unfortunately may not always be able to accommodate last-minute requests.



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

We hope you'll join us this Friday, July 7 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.



Find Mass Times Throughout the U.S.

Traveling this summer? An easy way to find Mass wherever you may be in the U.S. is to check out www.masstimes.org or use their handy app. Parishes can be sorted by location or time of Mass. It's a good idea to always check an individual parish's website, too, to make sure there have been no last-minute changes, but this website/app is a great resource for Catholics on the road.



A Prayer on Independence Day

(From *The Roman Missal*, Opening Prayer for Mass on July 4th, ©2020, ICEL)

Father of all nations and ages,
we recall the day when our country claimed its
place among the family of nations;
for what has been achieved we give You thanks,
for the work that still remains we ask Your help,
and as You have called us from many peoples
to be one nation,
grant that, under Your providence, our country
may share Your blessings with all the peoples of
the earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who
lives and reigns with You in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

*Wishing you and your families a safe and
happy holiday!*



HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR PARISH?

Counters

The parish is in need of adults who can offer 1 1/2 - 2 hours once a month to assist in counting the weekly collections. Counting takes place at the Parish Office on Wednesday mornings. If interested, please speak with Pat Briscoe or call or email Tina in the Parish Office at 973-267-5330 or tjurgaitis@stmnj.org for more details.

2023-4 Religious Education Program

As the current school year is wrapping up, we are starting to prepare for our 2023-24 Religious Education Program. Details regarding class registration will be coming soon, but to make next year's program as successful as possible, we really need volunteers to serve as catechists for all grades. If you are interested in this vital ministry, please email Kay Kiernan at kaykiernan95@yahoo.com or call or email Tina in the parish office. No previous experience is required. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of deepening the faith of our children!

Usher and Greeter Ministry

We are still looking for individuals to join the usher and greeter ministry here at St. Thomas More. It's a great and easy way to serve your parish and also get to know other members of the community with a minimal time commitment. The job is easy, just coming to your usual Mass and helping people find seats, directing people during Holy Communion, and taking up and depositing the collection in the safe. Please contact Tina in the Parish Office if you're interested, and someone will contact you with more information. Thank you!



Villa Walsh Academy - Save the Date!

Upcoming Open House

Villa Walsh Academy is an independent college preparatory Catholic school for girls in grades 7-12. Villa Walsh will be holding open houses this coming October on the following dates:

Sunday, October 1, 2023 from 1 pm to 4 pm

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Please come and see what makes Villa Walsh Academy so special! For more information, please visit www.villawalsh.org.

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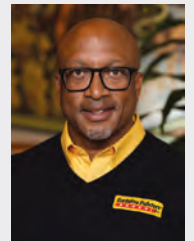


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