

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.

The Epiphany of the Lord - January 7, 2024

Parish Staff

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

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski
In Residence
lionheartdan@gmail.com

Tina Jurgaitis
Business Manager
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)
Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2024

'Go and search diligently for the Child...'

Admittedly, it can be argued that such is the best New Year's resolution one can make! We should all seek Jesus, the Source and End both of Christmas and of our lives. But who does King Herod think he is? All of a sudden King Herod seems to think he's Dr. Phil, or some kind of life coach or something. He's not the boss of me! How is it that the Magi are commanded by one of the most famous villains in history? Should we refer to Herod as some kind of "influencer?" I wonder how many followers he had on Instagram and how many YouTube subscribers. I mean, don't get me wrong, he was great in *The Masked Singer*. And people were saddened when he got booted from *90 Day Fiancé*, where we ventured into his emotional roller coaster world of international romance only to feel crushed when his visa expired. Herod's reality shows aside, it seems he is an unlikely conduit through whom to search for Christ. Herod's purpose was nefarious, and yet still somehow the Wise Men still found the Child! Indeed, God writes straight with crooked lines, sometimes using the most unlikely of circumstances to bring us to Jesus. And upon finding Him, it was the command of God, not Herod, that they ultimately followed, returning not to the king but to their country by another way. God met them where they were, and rescued them from a dangerous path, leading them to His Way. We begin this New Year overjoyed with the Magi at seeing the Star, the Child and His mother! Moving on, let us be cognizant of the different ways we are guided there, to reach and share His perfect Light.

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 12/23- 12/24/23 \$10,546.38

"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)



January 8 – The Baptism of the Lord

Thomas F. Sullivan, Jr.

January 9 – Saint Adrian Of Canterbury

Steven Mandarakas

January 10 – Saint Gregory of Nyssa

Mary Lou Schieber

January 11 – Blessed William Carter

Rosemarie Raiola

January 12 – Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

Anne Lundgren

January 13 – Saint Hilary of Poitiers

Lorraine Martin

Marcelino Carrera

Edward MacPherson

January 14 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 am: Paula Liuzza

11 am: Margaret Schott

7 pm: Jackie Macaluso

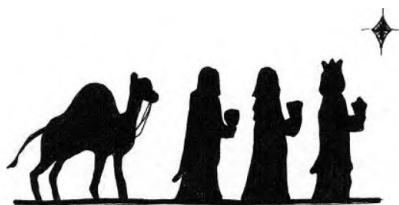


Mass Intentions/Mass Cards

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.

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, Caitlyn Gara, Barbara Kline, Gina Lazaro, Vincent Lazaro, Elizabeth Napoli, John O'Neil, Bethann and Bob Panzer, Bobby Polidore, Christopher Popp, Father Ed Rama, Eileen Scheibner, Bishop Emeritus Arthur Serratelli, 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.



The Epiphany of the Lord

Blessing of the Home and Household on The Epiphany

The Solemnity of the Epiphany has long been the day on which Catholics bless their home and its members. The tradition is rooted in the Bible, particularly Passover, where the blood placed on the lintel of the home was a sign that protected the household within. Although offered by priests in earliest days, as the number of Catholic homes greatly increased over the years, it has become something done by members of the household themselves. The blessing is often performed by writing the letters C, M, and B and the numbers of the year in chalk on the lintel of the main doorway of the home. For instance:

20 C+M+B 24

The letters stand for the names of each of the wise men (Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar) but are also believed to stand for "Christus mansionem benedicat" (i.e. "Christ bless this house.") Below is a blessing that can be used for this age-old tradition, a beautiful way to start the New Year...

**Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home,
that in it there may be health, purity, the strength
of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the
fulfillment of Your law, the thanksgiving to God
the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
And may this blessing remain upon this home
and upon all who dwell herein.**

Amen.



Scripture Study Group Meeting

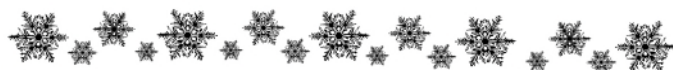
Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast – Part 1

Mary, the Mother of God

We travel to the ruins of Ephesus and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe. Bishop Barron explains the Church's great reverence for Mary and her unique role in the history of salvation.

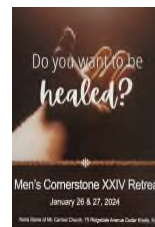
Presented by the STM Scripture Group

January 10th at 3:00 pm in the church.



Food and Fellowship for Single Parishioners

You are invited to join fellow single parishioners for their monthly luncheon gathering on Friday, January 17th at 12:30 pm at Angelina's Trattoria, 184 Columbia Turnpike in Florham Park (Kings Shopping Center). Please contact Monika Mangan at 973-451-1499 for more information and/or to RSVP.



Men's Cornerstone Retreat – January 26-27

Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church in Cedar Knolls will be holding their Men's Cornerstone Weekend on January 26-27. It is a 24-hour experience that begins on Friday evening at 5:30 pm and culminates with the Saturday Evening Vigil Mass at 5 pm. During this weekend you will become more conscious of how Christ is the Cornerstone of your life...how He enables us to live, grow and become more loving and to rise in our faith. It's a great opportunity to meet other men who also seek a conversion of the heart. The Cornerstone Weekend is a wonderful gift, a much-needed spiritual lift from the daily routine of our lives. The cost of the weekend is \$60 and can be paid online or by check. Please contact Christina Folan at commsupport@ndcarmel.com or 973-538-1358, ext. 105 for discreet financial assistance information if needed. For more information or to register, please go to <https://ndcarmel.com/mens-cornerstone-retreat>.

**Are you an adult with free time on
Saturdays mornings looking for a
meaningful volunteer opportunity?**

**Catholic Charities' Mary's Hands at Saint Margaret's
Church in Morristown is seeking individuals to teach
ESL on Saturday mornings (10-11:30am) January
through May. Prior ESL experience or knowledge of
any other language is not necessary.**



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Paterson

Mary's Hands

At St. Margaret of Scotland Parish, Morristown

**Join our group of enthusiastic volunteers and teach English to
our local community. If interested, please email
maryshands@margarechurch.org to get more information.**

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