

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.

First Sunday of Lent - February 18, 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) **First Sunday of Lent** **February 18, 2024**

I set My bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the Covenant between Me and the Earth...

Happy Lent, all! This 40-day period in the desert serves as a sacramental down shift in our lives to come to grips with the broken humanity that is redeemed in Christ Jesus. All together now: B-B-B-Bennie and the Lents! Wait, what's that? You mean I have been singing the Elton John song incorrectly this whole time? It's *Bennie and the Jets*? Well that's disconcerting, as the iconic Elton John/Bernie Taupin composition is a song that points out folks' uncritical acceptance of cultural tides. We see this phenomenon in our own day, right? There are Catholic folk of high public prominence who promote policies which do not comport to our Faith. Indeed, the world we live in is one of heightened vitriol and division. But the rainbow which we read about in Genesis brings us back to our core. Co-opted as a sign of 'pride,' the rainbow is actually the sign of the humility of God; it is the definitive emblem of Lent, a season of remembering God's Covenant with us. In our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, let us be mindful of the Covenant and the humility which It commands. I am going to try to give up certain things this Lent to mark such (but I am *not* giving up pizza, just putting that out there right now). Have a blessed Lent and prepare yourselves for the Grace God has in store for you! God loves you! He even made a bow in the sky to remind you!!

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 2/3-4: \$4,723.38

"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)



2023 Contribution Statements

The 2023 Contribution Statements have been sent! If you have any questions, need adjustments or would like to have a copy emailed to you, please email Tina at tjurgaitis@stmnj.org. Tina is also in the parish office on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Thank you!



February 19 – Saint Conrad of Piacenza

Special Intention for Sarah Thomas

February 20 – Saints Jacinta and Francisco Marto

Mary Tyne

February 21 – Saint Peter Damian

Peter Iorlano

February 22 – Chair of Saint Peter

Trinidad Quibrantar

February 23 – Saint Polycarp

Ray Meyers

February 24 – Blessed Luke Belludi

Salvatore Varone

February 25 – Second Sunday of Lent

8 am: Sandy Clyde

11 am: James Kennedy

7 pm: Mary-Alice Shortall



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, 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.



Religious Education Food Drive for Hope House

Next weekend, February 24-25, our religious education students will be collecting donations of non-perishable food for Hope House in Dover, which serves those in need in Morris County. They specifically requested canned tuna, canned meats, soups, rice, pasta, small jars of peanut butter, canned milk and coffee. Please do not bring large items, as they are more difficult to distribute. Donations can be left before or after the 5 pm, 8 am and 11 am Masses next weekend. Due to storage limitations, please do not drop off food at any other time. Thank you for your generosity!



Scripture Study Group Meeting

A Body Suffering and Glorious – Part 1

Mystical Union of Christ and the Church

Bishop Barron explores the Catholic Faith's Unique understanding of the relationship of Jesus Christ and the Church. Witness how the Mystical Body of Christ is a living organism that stretches from Rome to New York, Sao Paolo, Manila, and Namugongo, embracing humanity in all of its joys and sorrows.

Presented by the STM Scripture Group

February 21st at 3:00 pm in the church.

Daniel
Sight & Sound Theatre
Lancaster, PA
Saturday, April 13, 2024



7:00am - Departure - St. Kateri Tekakwitha

427 Stanhope Rd., Sparta, NJ 07871

7:00pm - Arrival - St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Price: \$180 per adult

\$130 per child (3-12)

CASH OR CHECK (payable to St. Kateri Parish, memo "Daniel")

Deadline to register is March 3rd!!

Price includes: bus, breakfast bag & water, show ticket, lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord

Have any questions? Call Dawn at 973-729-0489



Welcome Home to Healing

All Catholic Churches in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties (including St. Thomas More) will have their doors open for Confessions between 7 pm and 8:30 pm every Monday night in Lent 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 see the Welcome Home to Healing Website at: www.welcomehometohealing.org.



A written guide about how to go to Confession, as well as an Examination of Conscience, will be provided in each Church.

For more information, visit www.WelcomeHomeToHealing.org

For information in Spanish, visit www.bienvenidoacasaalasanacion.org

What are We Called to "do" During Lent?

In addition to whatever personal prayer, fasting and almsgiving each individual may undertake after prayerful consideration, to further foster a spirit of reflection and penance, all Catholics age 14 and older are called to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays during Lent. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also seen as days of fasting for Catholics between the ages of 18-59. This means there would only be one full, meatless meal, as well as food at other regular mealtimes together equaling less than one full meal.

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