

# *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 Lent - March 17, 2024***

### **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  
Business Manager  
[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)***  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 17, 2024**

*'Sir, we would like to see Jesus...'*

Well, that cuts to the Christian quick, doesn't it? This end of Lent conflates us with the end of our Faith: we all want to be put in touch with Jesus Christ. What's interesting is that this request came from foreigners, 'Greeks' who came to the Passover Feast. Yup, the 'outsiders,' like SE Hinton's classic novel of the same name (one of my favorite books as a kid), desired the Faith. That the recounting of this request falls on St. Patrick's Day is interesting since, as a slave, he, too was a proverbial 'outsider' (little-known fact— St. Patrick was actually Italian...sure, scoff if you will; I'm just here to fill any gaps in your knowledge of history). In celebration of this day, I usually do my Riverdance routine in the rectory. While festive, it does bring back some painful memories, as I actually auditioned for the show and of course nailed it. Yet for reasons unknown, they chose some guy named Michael Flatley instead. Whatev. Their loss! Anywho, whether 'Jew or Greek, slave or free,' Christ's attraction is all-encompassing and exhaustive. The above appeal was directed to Philip, not because he merely knew *about* Jesus. Instead, he *knew* Jesus and so was asked to arrange the meeting all Christians desire. When we are inspired by, or attracted to, someone, we long to be introduced to them by those who know them best. Christianity is the difference between *knowing about something and truly knowing someone: a Person!* Channel your inner Philip this Lent and cultivate your personal relationship with Christ in some moments of silent prayer and Sacramental life. Our world-gone-nutty is clamoring to meet Jesus. We can be Philip and bring someone to Him. To help inspire these efforts, we can recall some parts of the breastplate of our hero, St. Patrick, today: *Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me...Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of 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 3/2-3: \$6,345.38**

*"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)*



**March 18 – Saint Cyril of Jerusalem**

Maureen Gillmore

**March 19 – Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary**

Eileen Burke

**March 20 – Saint Salvator of Horta**

Oscar Granflor

**March 21 – Blessed John of Parma**

Madeline McCloskey

**March 22 – Saint Nicholas Owen**

Pat Schell

**March 23 – Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo**

Carmella Gagliardi

**March 24 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

8 am: Mary Finlay

11 am: Gabrielle Zeianne Chua

7 pm: Lorraine Moschini



***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](mailto:info@stmnj.org) or call the Parish Office.



## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

### Palm Sunday Weekend, March 23-24

Regular Mass Schedule (5 pm Saturday; 8 am, 11 am and 7 pm Sunday)

### Holy Thursday, March 28

No 8:15 am Mass

7 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper

(Adoration will take place following Mass until Midnight)

### Good Friday, March 29

No 8:15 am Mass

3 pm – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

7 pm – Stations of the Cross

### Holy Saturday, March 30

10 am – Blessing of the Food

7:30 pm – Easter Vigil

**\*\*THERE WILL BE NO 5 PM MASS ON HOLY SATURDAY\*\***

### Easter Sunday, March 31

8 am – Mass

11 am – Mass

**\*\*THERE WILL BE NO 7 PM MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY\*\***

### Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7

3 pm – Divine Mercy Sunday Devotional Prayer Service

(Followed at 3:30 pm by the opportunity for Individual Confessions)



### *Villa Girl for a Day*

Villa Walsh will be holding their Villa Girl for a Day on Friday, April 12 from Noon to 2:30 pm. This event is designed for 7<sup>th</sup> graders who are interested in applying to Villa Walsh Academy. Spend half a day with fellow 7<sup>th</sup> graders from other schools to experience some of the things that Villa Walsh has to offer. Registration is now open! For more information or to register, please go to [www.villawalsh.org](http://www.villawalsh.org), email [vwa@villawalsh.org](mailto:vwa@villawalsh.org) or call 973-538-3680.



### *Academy of St. Elizabeth – Panther for a Day*

The Academy of St. Elizabeth will be hosting its annual 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Panther for a Day event on Friday, April 26 from 12 pm to 3:30 pm. This afternoon provides prospective students with insights about life at the Academy, including experiencing several classes, as well as meeting with administrators, faculty, staff and Academy Ambassadors. Seats are limited for this event, so make sure to register now at [aosenj.org](http://aosenj.org) and save your spot!



### *Welcome Home to Healing*

Monday is the last chance to take advantage of the Welcome Home to Healing program this year! 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. For more information and resources on how to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please go to: [www.welcometohomehealing.org](http://www.welcometohomehealing.org).

### *Where Did the Statues Go??*

As you entered our church this week, you likely noticed something— our statues and images have been covered in purple cloths. But why? Why do we cover items intended to raise our hearts and minds to heaven, especially at this reflective time? It may seem counterintuitive, yet the practice of veiling alerts us that something is different. During these last two weeks of Lent, called “Passiontide,” the Church shifts her focus from Christ in the desert to Christ during His Passion. When such familiar and cherished images are hidden, we are shaken up. If our Ash Wednesday fervor has perhaps dissipated a bit as the weeks of Lent have carried on, veiling wakes us up. It is a forceful reminder that the Sacred Triduum is near, and it is time for us to get ready! No matter how we may feel our Lent has gone so far, it is time not to look back but to look ahead and prepare with great hope for what is to come. It is not too late to approach our Lord and seek His mercy! Our brokenness and our own ‘veiled’ lives keep us in exile from our God and our true home. ‘It is only through salvation that the veil is lifted and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives.’ (From <https://holyspiritchurch.org/covering-crucifixes-and-images-living-liturgy/>). And so we approach the upcoming Easter Triduum with even greater anticipation, not only of the unveiling of these beautiful images, but of that greatest unveiling through Christ's Holy Cross and Resurrection, by which He has redeemed the world.



### *Scripture Study Group Meeting*

Catholicism Revealed

Word Made Flesh – Part 1

Mystery of the Liturgy and Eucharist

Bishop Barron explores the ancient practices of the Church's worship that endure to this very day. The Eucharist is the central practice of the Catholic Faith, “the source and summit” of Christian life. In this episode, he explains the words, gestures, and meanings of the Church's Eucharist.

**Presented by the STM Scripture Group**

**March 20th at 3:00 pm in the church.**



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