

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.

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 24, 2025

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

Veronica O'Brien
Director of Music
musicdirector@stmnj.org

Kay Kiernan
Coordinator of Religious
Education/Youth
Protection Coordinator
religioused@stmnj.org

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 send an email to tjurgaitis@stmnj.org or call the Parish Office at 973-267-5330. We'd love to welcome you!!



Blast from the Past(or)
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 24, 2025

Lord, will only a few people be saved...?

Oy. You went there. Such is the collective conundrum, the historically agitating question for all who reflect on the Last Things: namely, heaven, hell, death and judgment. I take the Catholic position on this matter, which I've found myself having to defend at various times over the years, often in times and places you wouldn't expect, like the recent NJ State Fair, an annual Sussex County pilgrimage. There I was, looking at the livestock and careful of my steps, perusing the many Fair booths, surveying all of the delicious Fair Food Fare. Eager vendors offered me the opportunity to lease a John Deere tractor at a great price, refit my entire bathroom or even go home with a licorice rope taller than me! In the midst of this blissful experience, one lady in a booth caught my attention. She was handing out Bible tracts praising Jesus. As I approached, she asked, 'Are you saved?' I told her, 'I hope for such.' And that's where everything went haywire (no farm pun intended). All I wanted to do was enjoy my giant souvenir cup of lemonade, my deep-fried pulled pork mac and cheese burrito and my frozen cheesecake on a stick for dessert. Is that too much for a man to ask?! But no. Instead, I had to speak with this lady on salvation. A reminder from above that Faith is not about convenience. 'Do you love Jesus?' she queried. I answered unequivocally, in a witness that would make Bishop proud, 'Uh, yeah, I do.' 'Well, then you are saved,' the woman confidently declared. Um, really? That's it? The lady's question was timely, especially given my intake of Fair food that day (get right with God if you are ingesting a deep-fried burrito. I say this from experience.). We are reminded that our Catholic position is, 'God left us without exact information' on this matter (Avery Cardinal Dulles, *First Things*, May 2003). I tried to explain to this woman, over the course of our back-and-forth, that we do not take salvation for granted. Nothing, including salvation, is a foregone conclusion! But in Christ Jesus, we have the right and the duty to hope for the salvation of all (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1821). In the end, *the thought of hell must not create anxiety or despair, but serve as a healthy reminder of the freedoms within the proclamation that the Risen Jesus has conquered Satan* (St. John Paul II, General Audience, July 28, 1999).

God Bless you!!!!!!



Thank You for Your Generous Contributions!

Due to last week's office vacation closure, the Weekly Collection for 8/9-8/10 will be reported next week.



Monday, August 25: Saint Louis of France

Michele Halley

Tuesday, August 26: Saint Joseph Calasanz

Bill and Florence Kearney

Wednesday, August 27: Saint Monica

Lena Scialla

Thursday, August 28: Saint Augustine of Hippo

Brian Lisko

Friday, August 29: Martyrdom of John The Baptist

Terry Manelski

Saturday, August 30: Saint Jeanne Jugan

Maureen P. Kennedy

Sunday, August 31: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am: Marge O'Kane

11:00 am: Maureen Brodeur



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. 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. 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, Claire Brady, Ron Brodeur, Fred Donikowski, Caitlyn Gara, Barbara Kline, Gina Lazaro, Vincent Lazaro, Elizabeth Napoli, Iwona Nowak, John O'Neil, Bethann Panzer, Christopher Popp, Eileen Scheibner, Michael Schieber, Gloria Souchuk, Flynn Sullivan and Celia Zelinsky. 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 tjurgaitis@stmnj.org or call the Parish Office.



Parish Picnic is Coming - Sign up Today!

The parish picnic is Saturday, September 13, from 1-4 pm. Price of admission is simply a dessert or side dish! If you would like to attend, please just sign the sheet in the vestibule **before September 1**. Hope to see you there!



Potential Parish Choir

Our Music Director, Veronica, is exploring the possibility of forming a parish choir. She'd love to include your talents in this ministry! For more information, please see Veronica after Mass or email her at musicdirector@stmnj.org.



Coffee with Kupke Special Live Event!

Join Father Paul Manning, Diocesan Vicar for Evangelization, and Monsignor Raymond Kupke, Diocesan Archivist, at St. Paul Inside the Walls on Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 pm for a live recording of Coffee with Kupke! Watch as they "spill the coffee" live and answer your questions. To register, please go to <https://insidethewalls.org/coffee-with-kupke-live-recording>. The 20-minute episodes of this podcast lead the audience through the rich and exciting history of the Paterson Diocese. You can listen to this podcast on any podcast platform or watch it on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulinsidethewalls>.



Silver and Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples, were you married in 2000, 1975 or 1965? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held on Sunday, November 16 at 3:00 pm. Arrangements can be made by calling or emailing Tina in the Parish Office. Please note there is a limit of 5 guests per couple. **The deadline to register is October 17, 2025.** You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. Congratulations on this very special occasion!



2025-26 Religious Education Program

Time is running out!

Registration for this year's religious education program is open for all children from Kindergarten through 8th grade. Basic details are below. For more information, or to volunteer as a catechist, please email Kay Kiernan at religioused@stmnj.org or call the Parish Office.

Who can register? Our program is open to all children who do not attend Catholic school and whose families are registered with St. Thomas More.

What ages are included? We welcome students from Kindergarten through 8th Grade.

How do I register? Please register and pay online at: <https://stmnj.org/2025-26-registration>. If you encounter any issues with the registration, please contact Kay Kiernan at religioused@stmnj.org or call or email Tina in the Parish Office.

When are the Sacraments received? The Diocese of Paterson permits students to receive their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion after they have completed 2 years of religious education, so this typically occurs in 2nd Grade. Similarly, the Diocese requires each student to complete 2 years of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which typically occurs at St. Thomas More in 8th grade or later.

We still need volunteers to serve as catechists and classroom aides. If you are interested in this vital ministry, please email Kay Kiernan at religioused@stmnj.org. No previous experience is required. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of helping to deepen the faith of our children!

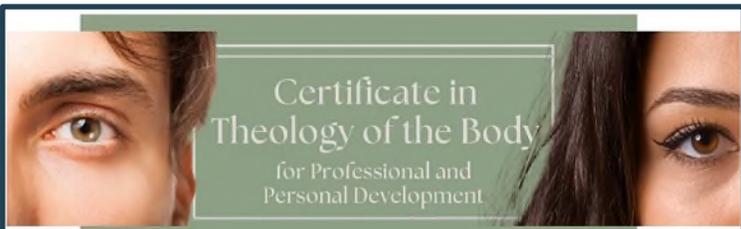
TEN SIGNS OF A SAFE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



1. SCREENING of staff/volunteers
2. Adults trained in safe environment strategies and signs of abuse
3. Code of conduct enforced
4. Open COMMUNICATION between parents and staff/staff and children/children and parents
5. PARENTS always WELCOME
6. Children educated in right relationships and what to do if a relationship isn't right
7. All children treated with DIGNITY and RESPECT
8. Clear RULES and EXPECTATIONS
9. Adequate supervision of youth (team approach - accountability - no 1:1 isolation)
10. All abuse is reported.

"If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office at the Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNeil at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Monsignor T. Mark Condon, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 ext. 205 or Sister Theresa Lee, FMA, Chancellor/Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 ext. 248."

The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan website: www.patersondiocese.org.



Certificate in Theology of the Body

for Professional and
Personal Development

This certificate is for those who are having a hard time navigating the questions and the current climate of human identity and sexuality. The topics of sexual orientation, identity and love boil down to three fundamental questions written on every human heart: **who am I, what was I made for and where am I going?**

STARTING SEPTEMBER 2025
FROM 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Session 1: September 2
Philosophical Foundations of
the Theology of the Body

Session 2: September 30
Christ Appeals to the Beginning

Session 3: November 4
Christ Appeals to the Human Heart

Session 4: December 2
Christ Appeals to the Resurrection

Session 5: January 6
The Sacrament: Part I

Session 6: February 3
The Sacrament: Part 2

Session 7: March 3
Pastoral Support and Reflection

For a list of the experts teaching each session, full descriptions of the subjects, and to register, scan this QR code or visit INSIDETHEWALLS.ORG/TOB



This certificate is intended for those who would like professional or personal formation

- Catechists
- Campus Ministry Chaplains
- Christian Educators
- Clergy, Religious, Lay Leaders
- College Campus Ministers
- Parents
- Young Adult Ministers
- Youth Ministers

Cost: \$200
Early-bird Special: \$180
Payment plans are available.



You can also sponsor a participant by scanning this qr code.

YOUNG ADULT BARBECUE

WITH SPECIAL GUEST



Entry: \$10
Walk-ins are welcome

Feel free to bring lawn chairs
and blankets!

Wednesday,
August 27, 2025
7 PM

St. Paul Inside the Walls
205 Madison Ave.,
Madison, NJ 07940



family FUN DAY

Come for a day of games and activities with the Sisters of Christian Charity at our Motherhouse in Mendham, NJ.

Cost: \$20 per child

Adults and children under 3 are free!

The proceeds of the event will go to support the education of the Sisters in formation.

- ✓ Activities and Prizes
- ✓ Facepainting
- ✓ Bounce House
- ✓ Picnicking
- ✓ Field Games

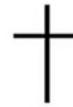


Sisters of Christian Charity
350 Bernardsville Road
Mendham, New Jersey

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
20TH
11:00-3:00 PM

Diocese of Paterson

Mass of Consolation



September 6th
10AM
St. Paul Inside the Walls
205 Madison Ave. Madison, NJ

Join us for a special mass to
remember and celebrate the
lives of our beloved children
we have lost too soon.

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."
Matthew 5:4



Office of Family Life



- Support and Healing
- Miscarriage Resources
- Post Abortive Resources
- Infertility Resources
- Community Building



Diocese of Paterson

2025 Jubilee Year Celebrations

Opening Mass – Cathedral

December 29, 2024 at 3pm

Feast of the Holy Family

Jubilee of Consecrated Life

February 1, 2025, at 11am

Mass and Luncheon at St. Phillip, Clifton

Jubilee of People with Disabilities

February 16, 2025 at 6pm

Murray House Dinner

Christian Unity Roundtable

March 16, 23 & 30, 2025 at 4pm

Wayne, Parsippany, Sparta

Jubilee of Artists

April 3 – 6, 2025

24th Annual Festival of the Arts

Jubilee of Workers

May 1, 2025 at 12pm

Mass at St. Joseph's Hospital

Jubilee of Law Enforcement

May 3, 2025 at 10:30am

Blue Mass at Cathedral

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality and Educators

May 13, 2025 at 10am

Diocesan School Mass at Cathedral

Jubilee of Teenagers

May 18, 2025

NJ Catholic Youth Rally at Six Flags

Jubilee of Families, Grandparents, and Elderly

May 31, 2025, at 1pm (12pm pilgrimage)

Family Day at St. Joseph Shrine

Jubilee of Priests

June 2, 2025

Priest Jubilarians Mass

Jubilee of Christian Unity

June 22, 2025 at 3pm

Ecumenical Prayer Celebration at Cathedral

Jubilee of Deacons

August 9, 2025

Deacons Convocation

Jubilee Pilgrimage (Bishop Sweeney)

September 26 – October 4, 2025

9-day pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi

Jubilee of Catechists

October 18, 2025, at 9am

Catechists Convocation at St. Elizabeth University

Jubilee of Missionaries

October 19, 2025

World Mission Sunday

Jubilee of Young Adults

October 26, 2025 at 5pm

Mass and Dinner at St. Anthony of Padua, Passaic

Closing Mass – Cathedral

December 28, 2025 at 3pm

Feast of the Holy Family

Local Pilgrimages

The Cathedral | East

December 29, 2024, Paterson

Jubilee Year Opening Mass

Shrine of St. Joseph | South

May 31, 2025, Stirling

Jubilee of Families, Grandparents, and Elderly

St. Luke | West

June 29, 2025, Long Valley

Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul

St. James | North

July 25, 2025, Montague

Feast of St. James

St. Bernard | Center

August 17, 2025, Wharton

Feast of St. Bernard



More Updates Here



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