

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.

Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 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)
Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025

Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

Today our hero, St. John the Baptist, poses this famous question to the Pharisees and Sadducees. J-Bap, as he was known on the streets, is clearly not in the Christmas spirit, as he directs anger toward the ‘brood of vipers.’ Why do those religious leaders really grate on St. John’s last camel-hair nerve? In a word, it’s pretentiousness. St. John calls out the posturing of the religious leaders. He condemns them for being, well, fake. All their self-satisfying actions and rituals are performed to be seen and to build their ego. While the Sadducees and Pharisees have read their Scriptures, they clearly don’t understand the meaning of the same. Instead, they spend their days people-watching in order to catch anyone in violation of the law (nice work, if you can get it). Despite wielding their religious authority, St. John the Baptist knows ‘there’s no there, there.’ Living in externalities can be a danger for us as well. Check out some Tik Tok videos and you can see full-grown adults acting out the pain of a superficial existence. Hopefully, we who follow Christ live in the *Imago* rather than the ego, and thereby internalize Advent. Far beyond banal externalities, we await the Child, Wonder-Counselor, God Hero Who deigned to come internally in poverty of our nature. We await the ‘shoot that shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,’ by Whom we are saved. In the words of Bishop Fulton Sheen, ‘Christ has two births, one in Bethlehem and one in your soul...’ Have a Blessed Advent!
 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 11/15-16: \$9,228.96

“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)



Have you checked out Hallow?

Looking for a great Advent resource? Check out the Hallow app today for prayers, traditions, schedules, and even their Advent Pray 25 Challenge.

Mass Intentions
 of the **Week**

Monday, December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 am: Sandy Clyde
 Jayne P. Bender

12:10 pm: Ray Meyers

Tuesday, December 9: Saint Juan Diego
 Mary Rush

Wednesday, December 10: Blessed Adolph Kolping
 Frank Gnandt

Thursday, December 11: Saint Damasus I
 Mary Gill

Friday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Michael and Anna Christie

Saturday, December 13: Saint Lucy
 John Cervone

Lucy Paoella

Special Intention for Sarah Thomas

Sunday, December 14: Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am: Theresa Gallagher
 The Gervasio and Rich Families
 Edith and Eugene Farrell

11:00 am: Bill and Alma McAllister

7:00 pm: Bill and Florence Kearney



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, Claire Brady, Patricia Brady, Ron Brodeur, Elizabeth Crepeau, Fred Donikowski, Caitlyn Gara, Barbara Kline, Gina Lazaro, Vincent Lazaro, Elizabeth Napoli, Iwona Nowak, John O’Neil, 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.



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is this Monday, December 8. Masses will be celebrated on at 8:15 am and 12:10 pm. Since the Solemnity falls on a Monday, there will be no Vigil Mass at 7 pm. All are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to honor our Blessed Mother and give thanks for the many gifts and blessings she gives to us each and every day, especially during this Advent Season.



Advent Penance Service

Our Advent Penance Service will be held on Tuesday, December 16th at 7 pm in the church. Opportunity for Individual Confessions will follow immediately afterwards. It's a great chance to help prepare our hearts for the Birth of our Savior through this powerful Sacrament.



Diocesan Ministries Appeal 2025 - "Three Counties, One Family of Faith"

As the year comes to a close, please consider making a year-end charitable contribution to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, which serves so many people in great need. Every gift to the Appeal is a blessing to both the contributor and the recipient, so please make the Diocesan Ministries Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit card or online, as well as through gifts of securities and IRA distributions. May God bless you for your support!

Please make a donation to the 2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Scan the QR code below or visit www.2025appeal.org to make a gift today.



Christmas Blessings Project

Thank you to everyone who took tags for this year's Catholic Family & Community Services annual Christmas Blessings Project. Please return all gift cards with tags to the vestibule no later than **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14** so there is time to distribute them before Christmas. Thank you, as always, for giving so generously to this wonderful cause!



Bambinelli Blessing

Next Sunday we invite all children (and adults, too!) to bring their Baby Jesus figures, either from their family Nativity Crèche or another decoration, for a special blessing. Pope Paul VI started this beautiful tradition of blessing the Baby Jesus statues held by children in St. Peter's Square during his Angelus address in 1969. Pope Saint John Paul II further popularized the tradition, which has continued to this day. After the blessing, everyone takes the figures of Baby Jesus home and places them in the family Nativity scenes or under their Christmas tree. So come be a part of this special Catholic tradition at all Masses next weekend.



Food and Fellowship for Single Parishioners

Please join fellow single parishioners for their Christmas luncheon gathering on Friday, December 12th at 12:30 pm at The Grain House, 225 Morristown Road (Rte 202), Basking Ridge. Please contact Monika Mangan at 973-615-4715 for more information and/or to RSVP.



Faith Sharing Group Meeting Genesis to Jesus Video Program Our Partner in Faith

The faith of Abram. The priest-king Melchizedek. The three promises and oaths. The obedience of Abraham and Isaac and the pattern of the elder serving the younger.

**Wednesday, December 17th at 3:00 pm
in the Parish Office Meeting Room**



DIOCESE PATERSON

Jubilee Year of Hope
CLOSING MASS

Join Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney and all the faithful as we close the Jubilee Year.

Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025 **Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Paterson**

2:45 p.m. Procession from Rodimer Center to Cathedral with parish banners.
3 p.m. Mass. We ask all other faithful to be seated before Mass.

A special invitation to pilgrims, who participated in local pilgrimages and Rome. Special recognition will be given by Bishop Sweeney.

PARISH BANNERS
 RSVP BY DEC. 26 <https://rcdop.org/closing-jubilee-year-mass> **FREE PARKING**

Taize

Join us for Taize - a candle-lit service that combines prayer, music, and periods of silence to help us focus on Christ's presence. Little by little, our being finds an inner unity in God, which continues in the silence of our hearts.

Friday, December 12, 2025
 7PM - 8PM

St. Virgil Parish
 250 Speedwell Avenue
 Morris Plains

MORRISTOWN
Christmas Market

Please join us to celebrate the season at the 15th Annual Christmas Market

WHEN: Saturday, December 6 (10AM-7PM)
 Sunday, December 7, 2025 (7AM-4PM)

WHERE: Rauscher Hall, Assumption Church,
 91 Maple Avenue, Morristown, NJ

*All proceeds support two Morristown-based non-profits:
 Africa Surgery and The Village Angels of Tanzania.*

FREE ADMISSION
 PARKING AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH
www.MorristownChristmasMarket.org

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1. **SCREENING** of staff/volunteers
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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.paterndioecese.org.

Please join us for our Annual St. Paul's Young Adult

Christmas Gala

A festive celebration filled with signature cocktails, holiday cheer, and delicious hors d'oeuvres

Saturday, December 13 at 7:00 PM

Mass celebrated at 6:00 PM

Ticket Pricing

\$50 early bird tickets before November 26
 \$55 per person before December 3
 \$60 per person before December 11

Pre registration is required! We will not be accepting walk ins!

*Friends and guests ages 21 - 39 are invited to attend

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



ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 8 - 8:15 am and 12:10 pm
[THERE WILL BE NO VIGIL MASS.]

STM Choir Participation in Taizè Service at St. Virgil's, Morris Plains

Friday, December 12 - 7 pm

Last Day to Drop Off Christmas Blessings Gift Cards

Sunday, December 14

Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 16 - 7 pm

Opportunity for Individual Confessions will follow the service.

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 am and 11:00 am

[THERE WILL BE NO 7PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.]

Masses for the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31 - 5 pm

January 1 - 8:15 am

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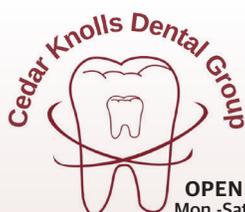
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