

Saint Thomas More

215 THOMAS MORE DRIVE • ELGIN, ILLINOIS 60123
www.stthomasmorechurch.org

Pastor

Reverend Richard Rosinski
rrosinski@stthomasmorechurch.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Reverend Louis Tosto
ltosto@rockforddiocese.org

Deacons

Mr. Bob Newton
Mr. Jack Roder
Mr. Gregory Stevens

Saint Thomas More

Education Center 847.742.3959

Preschool-Grade 8 www.stmcentral.org

Mrs. Ann Hawkinson, Principal
ahawkinson@stmcentral.org

Religious Ed 847.888.4887

Mrs. Michelle Tack, Director
mtack@stthomasmorechurch.org

RCIA 847.888.4887

Mrs. Dody Bushbaum, Coordinator
dbushbaum@stthomasmorechurch.org

SAINT EDWARD CENTRAL

CATHOLIC H. S. 847.741.7535
355 Locust Street, Elgin www.stedhs.org

Music and Liturgy 847.888.1682

Mrs. Jeanne Anne Aukofer, Director x 12
jaukofer@stthomasmorechurch.org

Evangelization 847.888.1682

Mrs. Sharon Hall, Director x 16
shall@stthomasmorechurch.org

YOUTH MINISTRY 847.888.1682

Mrs. Lisa Gaston, Director x 19
lgaston@stthomasmorechurch.org

BUSINESS OFFICE 847.888.1682

Mrs. Olga Pomella, Manager x 13
opomella@stthomasmorechurch.org

Parish Office 847.888.1682

Fax 847.888.3198

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:00 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm;

Sunday 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Weekday: Monday-Friday 8:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm ,

Wednesday 9:00-10:00 am or by appointment

Rosary: prayed before the 8:30 am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday, 9:00 am
Benediction, 4:00 pm



Jesus said to his disciples: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." - Jn 14:26

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MISSION STATEMENT

As Gospel stewards, grateful for what God has given, St. Thomas More Catholic Church community commits itself to the renewal of parish life through evangelization, worship, outreach to the poor, and community living.



EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE of MERCY

December 8, 2015 -
November 20, 2016



TIME REMAINS TO CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE OF MERCY

The holy doors opened throughout the Diocese of Rockford in December last year and are still open and still present for an opportunity to receive the joy of mercy to all local pilgrims.

"This is the Lord's own gate: Let us enter through it and obtain mercy and forgiveness," said Bishop David Malloy on Gaudete Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015 as he opened the main door of the Cathedral of St. Peter in Rockford, its ribbons and lock removed.

Pope Francis opened the Holy Door in Rome on Dec. 8 last year to begin the extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, which will end Nov. 20, 2016

The bishop explained that there is a "long standing tradition" of making a pilgrimage to Rome during a Jubilee Year and "to pass through that door is the end of that pilgrimage."

With the many holy doors located beyond that Rome basilica, "we are given an opportunity close by" our homes, he said, to make our own Jubilee pilgrimages even if we can't travel to Rome.

There are eight Diocesan holy doors in the Rockford Diocese during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The churches are located in each of the seven deaneries in the diocese. They are:

- ◇ Cathedral of St. Peter in Rockford
- ◇ Poor Clares' Monastery Chapel in Rockford
- ◇ St. Michael in Galena
- ◇ St. Mary in Sterling
- ◇ St. Mary in DeKalb
- ◇ Our Lady of Good Counsel in Aurora
- ◇ St. Thomas More in Elgin
- ◇ St. John the Baptist in Johnsburg



Check with each parish to determine when the holy door is open to the public other than at regular Mass times.

An indulgence is available to those who pass through one or more of the holy doors, Bishop Malloy said. Passports to stamp are also available for confirmation for the visit.

The "beauty and joy" of the Year of Mercy includes the opportunity to forgive sin to pilgrims who pass through the holy doors "by the explicit direction of Pope Francis," the bishop said. For more info: <http://www.rockforddiocese.org/jubileeofmercy/>

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: By appointment.

Baptism: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and third weekends of the month at 1:00 pm or during the 5:00 pm or 12:00 pm Masses. Parents need to be registered members and should be faithful in attending Mass. Participation in a baptismal preparation class is required. Please call Sharon Hall at the parish office to make an appointment: 847.888.1682 extension 16.

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance. Couples must meet with a priest to set a date and must participate in a marriage preparation program.

SICK & HOMEBOUND

If you are unable to come to church and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office: 847.888.1682.



Baptism



Angelo Joseph Fricano



WE PRAY FOR THOSE
WHO ARE ILL:

Marian Asplund, Christine Baczeik, Helen Baier, Virgil Beard, Margaret Brantley, Gracie Canning, Laura Christenson, Mac Connell, Lee Coombs, Theresa Cortesi, Milagrof Daquiwig, Edna Enriquez, Federico Enriquez, Enrico Espina, Ed Frederick, James Frederick, Nadine Frett, Mary Fusek, Wilma Gabanit, Linda Girardi, Josephine Hanson, Gloria Jean, Gloria Jordan, Dennis Kittler, Karen Kurelo, Carol Legenza, Dennis Lisecki, Reynaldo Mangila, Mike McCall, Gloria Neitzel, Bruce Newberg, Tho Nguyen, Marian Peterson, Hannah Perkins, Lisa Pryor, Lutie Regan, Manzella Rocco, Margaret Scherer, Lynn Schmidt, Cindy Schoeps, Diane Schumacher, Frank Scislowski, Dillon Smith, David Snelson, Larry Sorce, Lee Thomas, John Urquhart, Judy VanHanxleden, Dan Weiler, Carolyn Wisniewski, Sharon Wolf

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in you, hear us on behalf of your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy so that being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORD OF LIFE



"Little did I know that God was there, all along, offering me his love...The power of forgiveness is life-altering. I am happy again and the people whom I love sense that." *Life Matters: Forgiveness and Healing after Abortion* USCCB



Trained volunteers are available to provide spiritual support and comfort to all parishioners mourning a death loss. If you would like to have a bereavement minister contact you, please call the parish office at 847.888.1682.



TIME, TALENT, TREASURE & NEWS



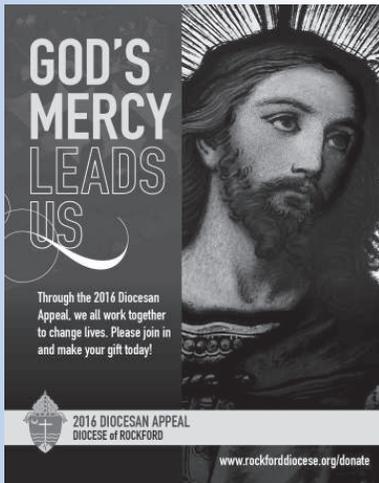
SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP

April 24, 2016

Stewardship of Treasure.....\$15,923.

2016 DIOCESAN APPEAL

Thank you in advance for your generosity to the Diocesan Appeal currently in process. If you haven't already, you may bring your envelope for the appeal and drop it off in the collection during Mass. Donations can also be made online at: <http://www.rockforddiocese.org/donate>. We ask your prayerful discernment as you pledge support of the 2016 Diocesan Appeal as "God's Mercy Leads Us".



FOR OUR MILITARY

Continue to pray for our men & women who serve us and our country every day! With gratitude & blessings!

Airman 1st Class Alex Arciuch, USAF; Maj. Ryan Bauman, USMC; Nathan Brammer, USAF; Miguel Carrillo, US Army; Brig. Gen. Robert Castellvi, Airborne; Master Sgt. William J. Guth, USMC; Lance Corp. Brandt Johnson, USMC; Specialist Philip B. Johnson, US Army; Airman Alexander Litgen, US Army 82nd Airborne; Maj. Nick Lange, Sr., Airborne; Staff Sgt. David McCallister, US Army; Sgt. Andrew B. Egger, US Army 112th Signal Battalion, Special Operations USAF; Staff Sgt. Steve Olson, USAF; Airman 1st Class Bryan P. Malm, USAF; Lance Corp. Ryan C. Meyer, USMC; Corp. Ryan Jacob Pechay, USMC; Master Sgt. Greg Popejoy, USMC; PV2 Patrick Puckett, National Guard; Sean Sabate USN; Lt. Col. Henry Voegtle, USAF.

BLESSING FOR OUR NATION

God of all things, we come before you in thanksgiving for all that you have created. For the world and its beauty, but especially for the people around us.

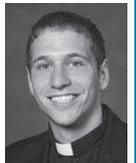
We ask you today to give us wisdom and courage to look at the world and all its problems and inspire us to dream great ways to improve upon what you have so graciously given to us.

Make us worthy to call you Father. And together bestow insight upon us to honor your created things. Bless, protect, and gift us ever anew with your love.

We ask all this as members of this country and with deep appreciation for all the men and women who serve our country in Christ's name. Amen.



VOCATIONS CORNER BY REV. KEITH ROMKE "HOW DO YOU KNOW?"



I recently had someone ask me "How do you really know what you are called to do?" I gave a few examples from my own life. However, this did not satisfy the individual because it didn't help to resolve the riddle of their own quest to discern a vocation. What they wanted was a formula or an equation that they could plug in the details of their life, let everything compute, and the result would be a confirmed answer as to their vocation.

Unfortunately, this kind of equation doesn't exist and the reason "why" is because you can't have two variables in an equation. The vocation itself is being questioned, and the other variable at play is the human heart which is not a fixed thing! A **Vocation** is essentially a **call by God** to love Him in a particular way. A Vocation is the way in which God wants to relate with us. In a relationship the heart is what dictates the terms. Because of this we cannot 100% know what we are called to do in our minds, but we can know albeit in a different way, in our hearts!

We will know what our calling is when we experience a sense of joy, peace, and fulfillment in our hearts when contemplating the vocation in question. I will qualify this by saying that it is not just an emotional response because this sense of joy needs to bear fruit that remains as Jesus spoke of in John 15. Therefore, pray, and look within your heart to listen to what God says!



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St. Vincent de Paul -National Vehicle Donation Program-call **800-322-8284** or www.svdpusacars.com



LIFE MATTERS

Any woman who is pregnant and in need can turn for help to the pro-life movement. She never has to feel that abortion is an option. People anywhere in the country can find assistance at the following numbers:

The Life Center 847.622.1235
For Post-Abortion Healing
Project Rachel 800.593.2273

WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS MORE!

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Thomas More, registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space-OR-call the parish office at **847.888.1682** to request a form. Return your completed registration form via mail or place it in the Sunday collection basket.

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." Can we hear Jesus saying these words to us? It's often easier for us to imagine the apostles hearing this consoling command and following it, than to think of it really applying to us. After all, Jesus was standing right there with them. Can he really expect US, two thousand years later, not to be troubled by the cares of life? But the fact is that the gift Jesus was giving to his disciples, he has also given to us: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name."

Jesus told them that peace would be theirs, and it can also be ours. Peace is, in fact, one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, along with love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity. These fruits don't come from us. They aren't just for people with certain cheery personalities. These fruits come from God straight into our souls through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. Through our baptism and confirmation, Jesus gives us the gift of his Spirit. And then his peace, and so many other gifts can truly become ours if we open our hearts to them.

This is a reality that we can contemplate whenever worry or anxiety strike. Whatever may be disturbing our inner peace~whether it be a family feud, some kind of physical suffering, or a difficult decision to make at work or school~we can take comfort in knowing that we can find peace even in the midst of the problem. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you," Jesus says. But he continues, "Not as the world gives do I give it to you." In other words, God doesn't promise to take away the struggle in an instant. But he does promise to give us his peace even in the midst of life's trials and tribulations.



National Day of Prayer

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER~MAY 5TH

On this National Day of Prayer for our nation, we gather with our family and friends to discuss important national issues, and then join in communal prayer for wisdom, prudence, and right judgment enlightened not by our political views, but influenced by our religious views.

Let us pray...

Good and gracious God, You are a God of justice and mercy.

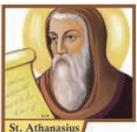
Enlighten our minds to choose what is right in your eyes and grant us the wisdom to acknowledge what is right.

Enlighten our lives with the fire of your love and strengthen us to work for the common good and not our individual needs.

For it is through your goodness that we have all we need to do your will in our nation.

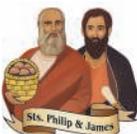
We ask all this, in and through the name of Jesus, your Son who lives with you and the Holy Spirit. -Amen.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK



St. Athanasius

Saint Athanasius of Alexandria, also called Athanasius the Great, Athanasius the Confessor or, primarily in the Coptic Orthodox Church, Athanasius the Apostolic, was the twentieth bishop of Alexandria. His episcopate lasted 45 years, of which over 17 were spent in five exiles ordered by four different Roman emperors. Athanasius is a renowned Christian theologian, a Church Father, the chief defender of Trinitarianism against Arianism, and a noted Egyptian leader of the fourth century. His day is celebrated on **May 2nd**.



Sts. Philip & James

Saints James and Philip, apostles were human men who became foundation stones of the Church. We are reminded again that holiness and its consequent apostolate are entirely the gift of God, not a matter of human achieving. Their day is celebrated on **May 3rd**.



"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I." - Jn 14:27-28

FOR OUR CHILDREN

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus wants you to love him so much that you will always do what he asks. Jesus knows that if you put God first, you will have peace. Instead of wanting more toys, you will be happy to share them. Instead of wanting to get your own way, you will enjoy taking turns. You will feel good helping other people.

Prayer

Dear God, change my heart so that I want to put you and other people first.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself giving one of your own toys to a child who has none.

Mission for the Week

I will invite a friend over to play. I will share and take turns.

 Read the Gospel and Color



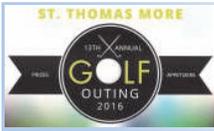
MAY CROWNING

The **STM School May Crowning** will be held on **May 3rd at the 8:30 am Mass**.

An additional celebration of May Crowning will be on **May 8th at the 10 am Mass**.



PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS



STM 13TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING 2016

When: Thursday, June 9th
 Time: Registration & driving range practice at 12:00 pm
 Driving range (12:00-12:45 pm)
 Where: Elgin Country Club-2575 Weld Road-Elgin, IL.
 Cost: \$175 per golf
 Foursome early bird special-\$650 prior to May1st
 Foursome-\$750 after May 1st

Join us for 18 holes of golf with a 19th hole celebration! Register at golf.stmcentral.com



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE!

St. Thomas More School is now enrolling preschool 3year olds through 8th grade students. Call 847.742.3959 for a tour!

St. Thomas More School, 1625 W. Highland Avenue, Elgin, is now taking registrations for the 2016-2017 school year. You are invited to tour the school and learn more about our 3 year old preschool, all day Kindergarten and Grade 1-8 programs. St. Thomas More School offers a challenging academic program, provides solid faith formation, excellent teachers, small class sizes, School Speak (on-line grading program) for parents, no-cut sports program, After Care, after school extra-curricular programs, and an optional hot lunch program.

STM School is in its 56th school year in Catholic education. It is a recognized PK-3-8 grade Catholic School that offers a personalized approach to learning that's faith-centered, academically challenging, interactive, and has all students on a path to success-academically, spiritually, and socially. There are many success stories involving our alum and their continued academic success in high school or their achievements in their careers.

Please contact the school office at 847-742-3959 for more information, a school tour, or a shadow day.



CALLED TO PRAY

Evenings of Prayer hosted by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Rockford

An evening of prayer hosted by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Rockford

All are invited on Monday May 16 at 7:00pm to join our Vocation Director, Fr. Keith Romke, as he travels throughout the diocese to pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood, Consecrated Life, and marriage within our diocese. The evening will consist of an inspiring talk on prayer and discernment, both for discovering God's will for one's life, as well as following God's call in our day to day lives. Following the talk we will have the opportunity to pray and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament during times of silence as well as periods of praise through music.

Time: 7:00-7:30 Talk and 7:30-8:30 Holy Hour

FILIPINO CELEBRATION OF ST. PEDRO CALUNGSOD

On Sunday April 24th, a service celebration in honor of St. Pedro Calungsod was held at our very own St. Thomas More Church officiated by Fr. Ariel Valencia (main Celebrant), Fr. Perfecto Vasquez, and Fr. Apsotol.

St. Pedro Calungsod was an Roman Catholic Filipino immigrant, sacristan and missionary catechist who, along with the Spanish Jesuit Missionary Diego Luis de San Vitores, suffered religious persecution and martyrdom in Guam for their missionary work in 1672.

While in Guam, Calungsod preached Christianity to the Chamorro people through catechism, while baptizing infants, children and adults at the risk and expense of being persecuted and eventually murdered. Through Calungsod and San Vitores' missionary efforts, many native Chamorros converted to Roman Catholicism.

Calungsod was formally canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City on October 21, 2012



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STAFF

The poem below is dedicated to my teachers and staff who work tirelessly for the children in our school community.

-Ann Hawkinson, Principal

With a special gift for learning
 And with a heart that deeply cares,
 You add a lot of love
 To everything you share,
 And even though
 You mean a lot,
 You'll never know how much,
 For you helped
 To change the world
 Through every life you touched.
 You sparked the creativity
 In the students whom you taught,
 And helped them strive for goals
 That could not be bought,
 You are such a special teacher
 That no words can truly tell
 However much you're valued
 For the work you do so well.



CALENDARS & SCHEDULES



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 2

8:30 am Robert Motyka
Ginny Klos

Tuesday, May 3

8:30 am Jean Zelek
Maria Valdiva-special intention

Wednesday, May 4

8:30 am Fred Taeyaerts
Chester Misner

Thursday, May 5

8:30 am Sylvia Bauman
Jim Durante

Friday, May 6

8:30 am All Souls

Saturday, May 7

5:00 pm Antoinette Rosinski
Ann Decker

Sunday, May 8

8:00 am Bill Molitor
Gisele Kwatick
10:00 am Diane Nierzwicki
Loretta Liebert
12:00 pm People of STM
Mike Terlecki

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please call the parish office to schedule the date and time. The contribution for reserving the intention of a Mass is \$10.00.

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, May 2

6:30 pm Women's CRHP-Tudor Room
7:00 pm Divorce Ministry-
Canterbury Room

Wednesday, May 4

9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel
9-10 am Confession-Confessionals
4:00 pm Bible Study-Canterbury Room
4:00pm Benediction-Chapel
6:30 pm Bible Study-Westminster Room
7:00 pm Adult Choir-Lancaster Room
7:00 pm RCIA-Chelsea Room

Thursday, May 5

9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group-
Tudor Room

Friday, May 6

9:15 am Women's Prayer Group-
Canterbury Room
7:30 pm Filipino Choir-
Lancaster Room

Saturday, May 7

7:00 am Men's Fellowship-
Canterbury Room
9:00 am Lay Carmelites
-Canterbury Room
9:00 am Knights of Columbus
-Chelsea Room
7:30 pm Filipino Choir-
Lancaster Room

After Masses Next Week
Right to Life



Readings for the Week of May 8th

Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23
Jn 14:23-29
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1-6, 9
Jn 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-5
Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1
Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7
Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10
Jn 16:23b-28



ASCENSION OF THE LORD WEEKEND: MAY 7/8

Presiders

5:00 pm Father Rich
8:00 am Father Louis
10:00 am Father Rich
12:00 pm Father Louis

Altar Servers

5:00 pm C Kriens, W Skog, A Tiu
8:00 am M Brammer, H I Garcia,
A Meyer
10:00 am B McKee, E Menendez,
R Ottens
12:00 pm R Bodio E Mendoza, M Tendency

Lectors

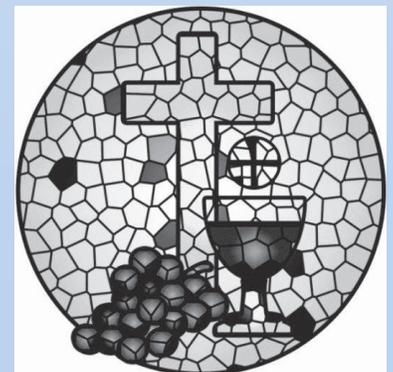
5:00 pm B Freitag
8:00 am M Poyer, B Sprangers
10:00 am L & M Dela Merced
12:00 pm L Whitworth

Musicians

5:00 pm MWeller, C Powers, D Malesky,
C Manheim, C Olson
8:00 am K Davis-Flannery, H Relihan
10:00 am Adult Choir
12:00 pm J Tendency, M McCarty, M Martin

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm D & T Eternick, B Newton,
M Roman, M Suire, E Reckamp,
E Thompson
8:00 am S & T Kovac, S Schultz,
P Lopatowski, M & S Beyer,
J Roder
10:00 am J Radcliffe, D Worf, K Mudgett,
J Felski, R Wiel, Z Rodriguez,
C Flores, M Hudson, B Pruter
12:00 pm M Pechay, N Balbuena, G Stevens



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