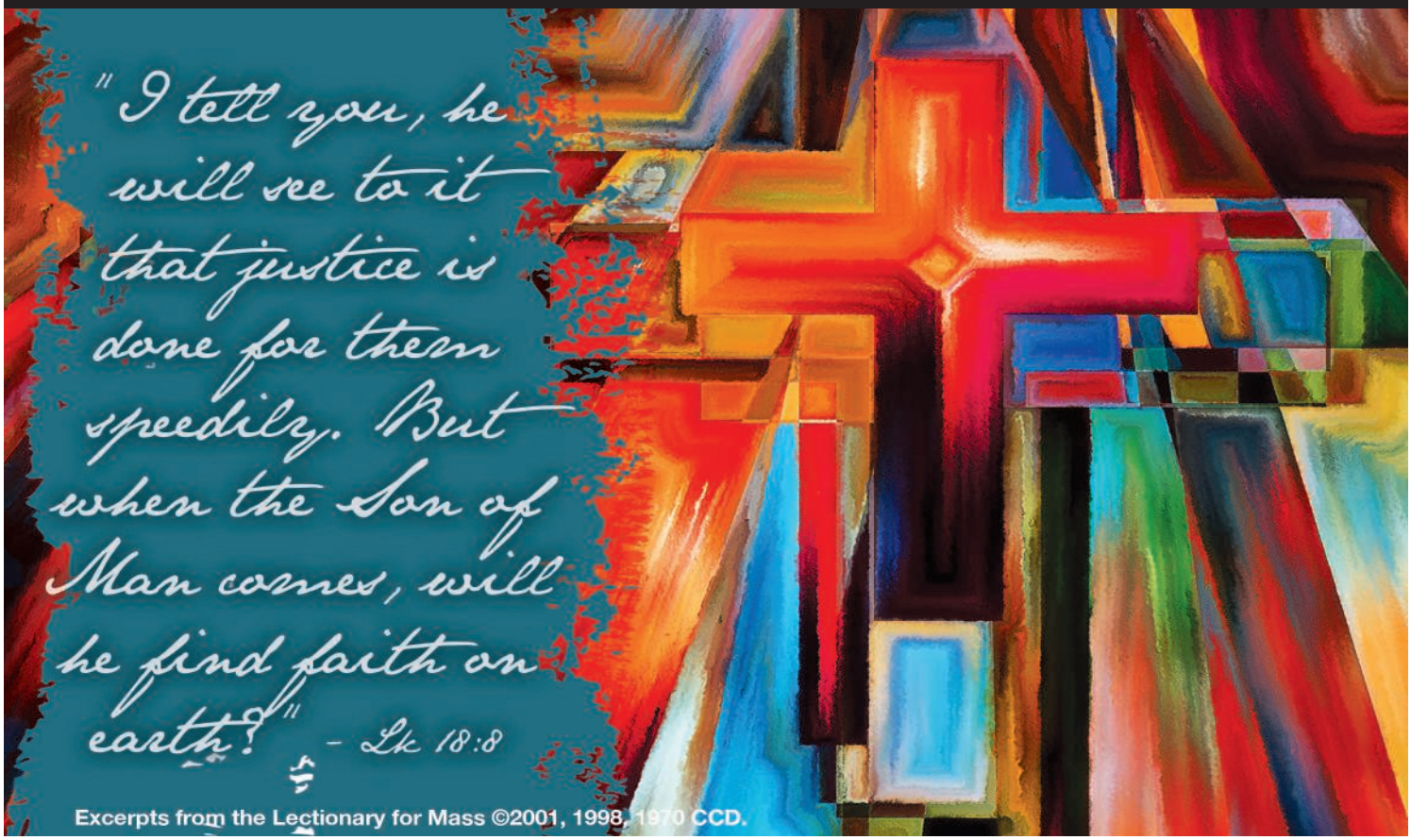
OCTOBER 16, 2016 | 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Thomas More Parish

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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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.

CONNECT WITH US

St Thomas More Catholic Church

OUR WEBSITE

www.stthomasmorechurch.org

ROSARY

prayed before the 8:30 am Mass

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm
Weekday: Monday-Friday 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 9:00-10:00 am,
Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm or by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday, 9:00 am
until Benediction, 4:00 pm

FROM THE FINANCE COUNCIL

AN OVERVIEW OF THE PARISH ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

St. Thomas More's Parish Finance Council has reviewed the financial operations for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. The following is an overview of parish finances:

The table on page 4 shows the revenue, expenses and other financing sources/uses for the past three fiscal years. In addition, separate pie charts for revenue and expenses provide a visual presentation of the numbers included in the table.

Revenue was down in 2015-2016 largely due to a decrease in bequests (a very large donation from a parishioner was received in 2014-2015) and a decrease in school tuition and fees.

Expenses increased in 2015-2016 as the parish successfully completed the parking lot reconstruction project. As a result, expenses exceeded revenues by $525,605 for the year ended June 30, 2016. Funds used to cover this deficit were provided by $400,406 in loan proceeds from the diocese, plus the utilization of savings from DIAL savings accounts. At the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2016, the loan balance was $304,675.

It should be noted that a large portion of the parish's expenses are related to education of the entire parish community. The school, religious education (RE, Confirmation Classes, and RCIA) and youth ministry are included in these expenses. The Catholic formation of our youth and newest members give witness to our faith and the future of our parish family.

God's blessing and your stewardship make all of this possible. Thank you for your generous support.

In His Service,
St. Thomas More Finance Council

EVANGELIZATION

St. Thomas More parish is blessed to have more than sixty active ministries. Many parishioners choose to participate in ministries of the liturgy; our altar servers, musicians, ushers, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers. They help to ensure that our celebration of the Mass is God centered and joyful. We are also blessed to have parishioners who reach beyond the church and out to the community of Elgin to bring Christ and the Gospel to the sick in the nursing homes and hospitals, also to those in need at PADS, through St. Vincent de Paul, the soup kitchen, food pantries and other support services in Elgin. We meet in many small groups to share our faith and learn more about the faith. We launched a new website which we hope will be more user friendly for all and we are working on advancing our exposure through other social media platforms. Our Holy Doors at St. Thomas More this past year have given us the opportunity to welcome hundreds of pilgrims as they walk through our doors, and experience the mercy of Christ. We continue to be blessed by all who share the gifts of their time and talents. Please see our website or contact the parish office if you would like to be a part of any of our ministries.

MUSIC & LITURGY

BELL CHOIR

Music Ministry (July 2015-June 2016)

The Saint Thomas More music ministry program continues to thrive and grow. Our choirs, including the Adult Choir, Servant Choir, Filipino Choir, Youth Choir, High School Ensemble, and Resurrection Funeral Choir provided music at important celebrations in the life of our parish community, including Confirmation, All Souls Memorial Mass, Simbang Gabi, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter and First Holy Communions. Thirty dedicated cantors and musicians faithfully participated in music at Mass throughout the year. This year, we successfully raised the funds to purchase supplies to begin a hand bell choir. In September, our hand bell choir began rehearsals and will begin playing at Mass very soon!

Liturgy (July 2015-June 2016)

This year at Saint Thomas More, our liturgies included 12 weddings, 39 funerals, 83 baptisms, 115 1st Communions, 67 Confirmations with Bishop Malloy, Memorial Mass to honor the deceased of our parish, Ash Wednesday prayer services and Masses, Stations of the Cross, Holy Days, Anointing of the Sick, and weekday/weekend Masses. Ministries to enhance each of these liturgies required volunteers to serve as ushers, lectors, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, and musicians.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is how the Church prepares adults seeking to become Catholic. It is for those who have never been baptized (Catechumens), have been baptized in another Christian faith traditions (Candidates), or were baptized Catholic but never received the sacraments of the Eucharist and/or Confirmation. Last year's group of eight included all three paths to full communion with the Catholic Church.

RCIA starts in the fall as a time for private reflection and inquiry about their beliefs and our beliefs as Catholics. Starting with Advent, you will begin to see us as we go to week-end Mass and are dismissed after the homily to study the Scripture readings. During Lent, we have an all day retreat and at Mass for three Sundays our group experiences the Scrutinies to help them grow in holiness. At the Easter Vigil they receive their sacraments. In the following weeks they learn about the various ministries we offer at St. Thomas More and we talk about their experiences to help them become a part of our Church community. We thank the parishioners of STM for your prayers and your assistance.

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Thomas More Catholic School provides an educational program which meets the spiritual and academic needs of our students yet it requires great sacrifice and involvement on the part of all St. Thomas More parents, parishioners, and staff members who are committed to Catholic education. Furthermore, St. Thomas More Catholic School is an educational community committed to assisting parents in fulfilling their responsibility of nurturing the continued spiritual and academic growth of their children. Recognizing individual talents and abilities, we provide an educational program that allows children to develop to their fullest extent as whole and responsible persons. Guided by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, we seek to empower students with the values, knowledge, and skills required to participate in today's Church and world. Our school's education programs are a reflection of the mission statement, philosophy, goals and objectives following the Diocese of Rockford Curriculum standards.

The spiritual development of our students is our first priority, with the practice of our Catholic faith beginning at home. Mass attendance and financial support of our parish is critical to the life of St. Thomas More Catholic School and the parish community.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our mission is to support parents and provide an education in the Catholic faith that inspires our young disciples to grow closer to God through prayer, faith and service. There are approximately 550 disciples in the St. Thomas More Religious Education program and grades range from PreK-9th (and Special Education –Spred). The PreK and Kindergarten will be using "Allelu" program from Our Sunday visitor and Grades 1-7 grade will be introduced to "Alive in Christ" also from Our Sunday Visitor (OSV). We are very excited to be utilizing this new and interactive curriculum to share the love of Christ. Over 82 volunteer catechists and aides come together on both Wednesday evening and Sunday mornings to share their love of Christ and His Church. In addition, there are special community assemblies for adoration, confession, Advent and Lent. This year's devotion and traveling family prayer is the Mary, Untier of Knots.

Both the children of the St. Thomas More School and Religious Education programs will follow the year of Hope - "Virtues in Practice" program designed by the Nashville Dominican Sisters. We will focus on a virtue each month and a saint that we can learn from that exemplifies that virtue.

The Sacramental celebrations are always highlights of the St. Thomas More community. There is a two year formation before the celebration of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. Parent involvement is crucial to faith formation, so to assist parents more fully, we have parent sacramental workshops, adult formation offerings, and parent e-newsletters. This year we will continue the Holy Dash Cards. Every month the children of grades 1-7 will bring home a faith question to share with family "on the go" and then bring back responses to share with the class. Our year will start with blessings – we are encouraging every family to take a moment and share God's love with a blessing to each other in a physical sign of the sign of the cross.

"Do ordinary things with extraordinary love…Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do, but how much love we put into the action…" St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact the Religious Education office at 847-888-4887, or email mtack@stthomasmorechurch.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry at St. Thomas More Parish begins its 11th year, continuing its focus on bringing youth to have encounters with Christ. This is accomplished through offering experiences in areas of spiritual growth, service opportunities, and social gatherings with other faith filled teens. Hundreds of teens in grades 6-12 participate in STM youth events yearly with high energy activity, prayer, retreats, and discussions on Catholic truths.

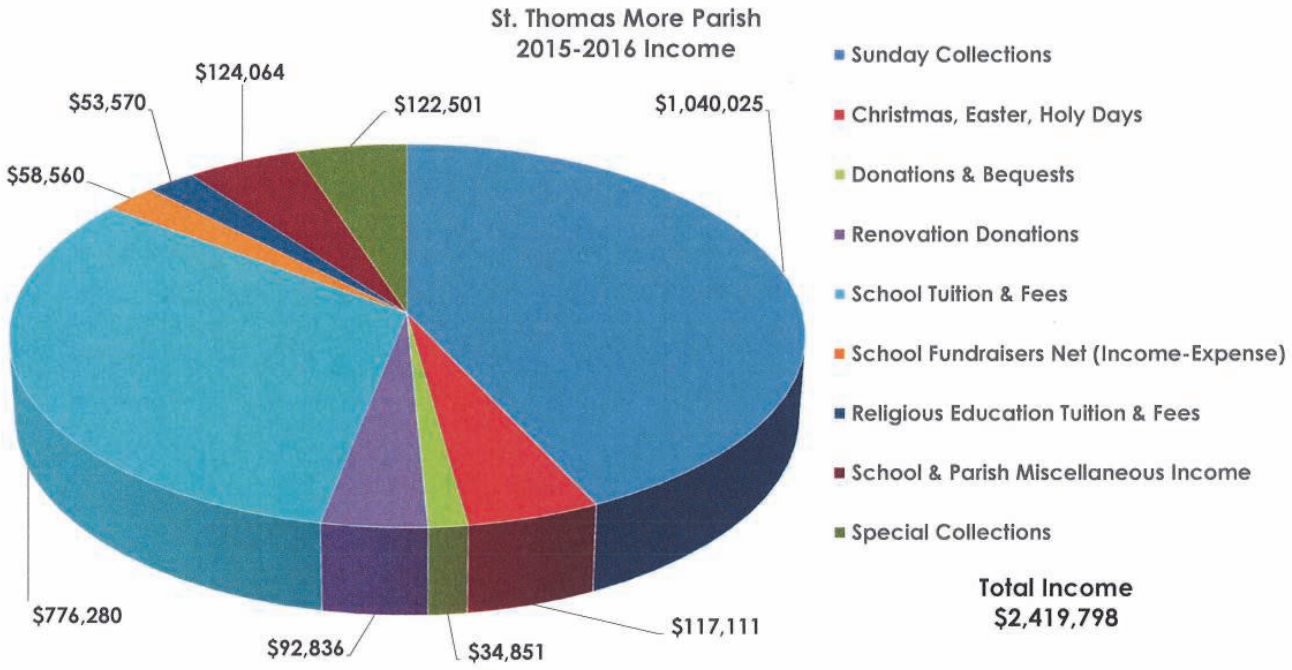
The high school leadership team is made up of 55 enthusiastic high school Peer Ministry Leaders (PMLs) who meet regularly each month to plan events. The programs that we look forward to in Youth Ministry include **Youth Service Days**, the annual **Harvest Hike**, **Adopt-A-Family**, **"J" Walking** and **Camp FROST**. Youth in all grades find something in Youth Ministry that they can attend with these events. **TRUTH** and **QUEST 4 Christ** nights bring teens together to have interactive fun in faith. Youth also enjoy annual retreats that include **Rocked By God** and **Camp WOW!** This year over 30 high school teens attended the **Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference** in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Future plans for youth include the **Here I Am Lord! Youth Vocations Conference**.

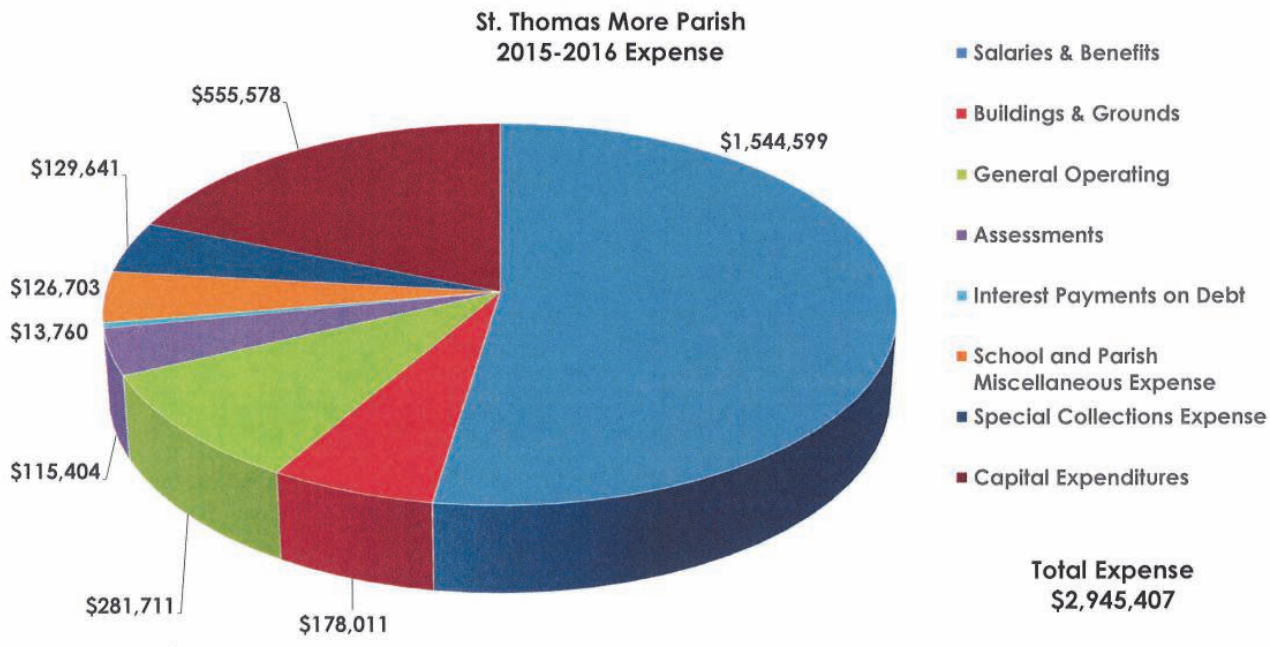
St. Thomas More Youth Ministry looks forward to presenting many more opportunities to our youth so that they may experience and be part of today's church while encountering Christ in their lives.

St. Thomas More Parish Annual Financial Report 2015-2016

	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Sunday Collections	$ 1,020,754	$ 1,039,628	$ 1,040,025
Christmas, Easter, Holy Days	112,802	117,750	117,111
Donations & Bequests	59,591	964,097	34,851
Renovation Donations	166,679	94,063	92,836
School Tuition & Fees	906,325	883,875	776,280
School Fundraisers Net (Income-Expense)	65,178	58,446	58,560
Religious Education Tuition & Fees	49,455	53,389	53,570
School & Parish Miscellaneous Income	154,328	146,939	124,064
Special Collections	115,654	133,695	122,501
Total Revenue	**$ 2,650,766**	**$ 3,491,882**	**$ 2,419,798**
Transfers:			
Dial Withdrawals	13,380	232,000	*
Total Revenue with Transfers	**$ 2,664,146**	**$ 3,723,882**	**$ 2,419,798**
Salaries & Benefits	$ 1,475,269	$ 1,542,217	$ 1,544,599
Buildings & Grounds	207,187	205,601	178,011
General Operating	250,102	260,817	281,711
Assessments	131,912	131,752	115,404
Debt Reduction	212,500	57,274	*
Interest Payments on Debt	11,515	1,925	13,760
School and Parish Miscellaneous Expense	127,994	130,909	126,703
Special Collections Expense	115,383	126,470	129,641
Capital Expenditures	61,567	330,146	555,578
Total Expenses	**$ 2,593,429**	**$ 2,787,111**	**$ 2,945,407**
Net Revenue (Expense)	$ 57,337	$ 704,771	**$ (525,609)**
Transfers:			
Dial Deposits	108,830	93,398	-
Foundation Transfer		901,728	-
Total Expense w/Transfers	**$ 2,702,259**	**$ 3,782,237**	**$ 2,945,407**
Net Revenue (expense)	**$ (38,113)**	**$ (58,355)**	**$ (525,609)**
Additional Financing Sources			
Proceeds from Loan for Parking Lot			400,406
Transfers from Savings & Endowments			247,000
Additional Cash Payments			
Loan Debt Repayment			**$ (95,931)**
Net Change/Transfer to Cash			**$ 25,866**
Renovation/Parking Lot Debt	**$ 190,500**	**$ 350,000**	**$ 304,675**
School Subsidy	**$ 260,000**	**$ 260,000**	**$ 260,000**

***Reported in Other Cash Payments section due to changes In Diocesan Accounting procedures.**





Total Revenue less Expenses $ (525,609)

PARISH CALENDAR

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday October 17	9:00 am	Bible Study –Westminster Room
	4:30 pm	Youth Choir –Lancaster Room
	7:00 pm	Bible Study -Canterbury Room
	7:00 pm	Deaf Ministry –Westminster Room
Tuesday October 18	12:00 pm	Fellowship –Chelsea Room
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir –Church
	7:00 pm	Bible Study –Westminster Room
Wednesday October 19	9:00 am	Eucharistic Adoration –Chapel
	4:00 pm	Benediction –Chapel
	4:00 pm	Bible Study –Canterbury Room
	6:00 pm	High School Choir –Lancaster Room
	7:00 pm	RCIA –Chelsea Room
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir –Lancaster Room
Thursday October 20	9:00 am	Intercessory Prayer Group –Tudor Room
	6:30 pm	Spred –Canterbury Room
	6:30 pm	Servant Choir –Lancaster Room
Friday October 21	- - - - - - - - -	**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
	9:15 am	Women's Prayer Group -Canterbury Room
	7:30 pm	Filipino Choir –Lancaster Room
Saturday October 22	7:00 am	Men's Fellowship –Tudor Room

After Masses Next Week

- Reverse Collection
- Knights Of Columbus -Christmas Card Sales
- School—Turkey Raffle

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, October 17
8:30 am John Henn, Betty Mueller

Tuesday, October 18
8:30 am Deceased members of O'Rourke Family, Elizabeth Fay

Wednesday, October 19
8:30 am Ruth & Robert Evans

Thursday, October 20
8:30 am Diane Norfray, Judith Siok

Friday, October 21
8:30 am Viateur Saindon, Amy Peebles

Saturday, October 22
5:00 pm Fred Taeyaerts, Araceli Olanda

Sunday, October 23
8:00 am People of STM, Ed Quinn
10:00 am Bob Cundiff, Michael Hasek
12:00 pm Gaudencio Sarangaya, Howard Clemens

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

LITURGICAL ROLES –WEEKEND OCTOBER 22/23

Presiders
5:00pm Father Rich
8:00am Msgr. Linster
10:00am Father Rich
12:00pm Father Rich

Altar Servers
5:00pm I Burnett, T Jannusch, A Tiu
8:00am M Brammer, HI Garcia, G Sajdak
10:00am J Glazik, L Rolando, E Rolando
12:00pm E Mendoza, M Tendy, J Utanes

Lectors
5:00pm M Cannizzaro
8:00am M Aydt, D Rothgeb
10:00am F Ostdick, B Harrington
12:00pm R Sy

Musicians
5:00pm High School Ensemble
8:00am M Weller, C Powers, D Johnson, H Relihan
10:00am Adult Choir
12:00pm M Lee, R&M Arcales, E&M Nguyen, N Trevino

Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm C Voris, J Taeyaerts, J Obenauf, K Newton D Eternick, B Newton, T Eternick
8:00 am M Schutlz, J Sarto, K Sarto, P Lopatowski, L Heuer, J Roder, M Pokorny
10:00 am Z Rodriguez, K Mudgett, R Wiel, C Puchek, D Varley C Flores, MP Berens, R Calara, M Thompson
12:00 pm M Thames, E Rafael, G Stevens

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