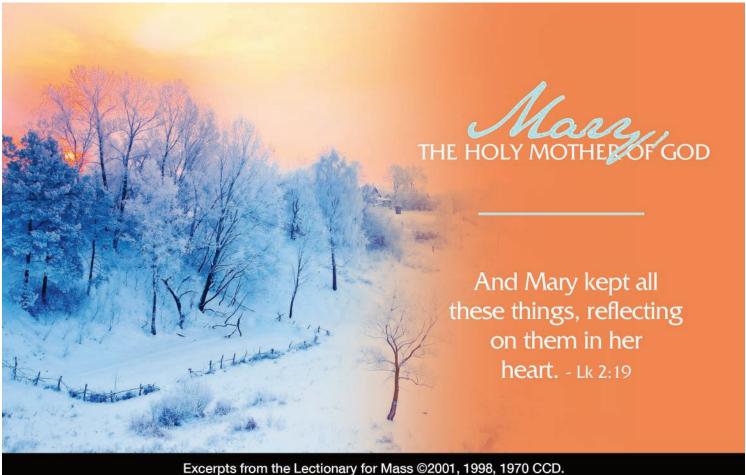


# St. Thomas More Parish



## 215 THOMAS MORE DR. | ELGIN, IL 60123-5054 | (847) 888-1682

### **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**



### **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

### **PARISH OFFICE STAFF**

### **Pastor**

Reverend Richard Rosinski

rrosinski@stthomasmorechurch.org

### **Deacons**

Bob Newton
Jack Roder
Gregory Stevens

Gregory Stevens
Business Office
Evangelization
Music and Liturgy
Parish Office       .847.888.1682         Hours: Monday-Friday       8:30 am-4:00 pm         FAX:       .847.888.3198
Marilyn Bauman, Secretary x 10 mbauman@stthomasmorechurch.org
Susie Johnson, Secretary
Angie Young, Bulletin Editor
RCIA847.888.1682 Linda McEwan, Coordinator Imcewan@stthomasmorechurch.org
Religious Education847.888.4887 Michelle Tack, Director mtack@stthomasmorechurch.org
Saint Edward Central Catholic H. S847.741.7535 www.stedhs.org
Saint Thomas More School Ann Hawkinson, Principal847.742.3959 ahawkinson@stmcentral.org or www.stmcentral.org
Youth Ministry847.888.1682



lgaston@stthomasmorechurch.org

### **WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS MORE**

Interested in becoming Catholic? Contact Linda McEwan, RCIA Coordinator, Imcewan@stthomasmorechurch.

Interested in becoming a member, registration forms are on the website at **www.stthomasmorechurch.org** or call the parish office at **847.888.1682.** 

Mrs. Lisa Gaston, Director ...... x 19

### **SACRAMENTS**

**Reconciliation:** Wednesday 9:00-10:00 am, Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm or 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 meet with a priest to set a date and will also participate in a marriage preparation program.

Anointing of the Sick: By appointment.

### **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**.

NEW YEAR







### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE ILL...

Mary Beth Alway, Fr. Bob Balog, Cathy Banker, Gerard Barnicle, Virgil Beard, Margaret Brantley, Gracie Canning, Theresa Cortesi, Jay Connell, Edna Enriquez, Federico Enriquez, Enrico Espina, Karen Fiduccia, Ed Frederick, James Frederick, Linda Girardi, Cathy Hanes, Michele Ingram, Natalie Jorgensen, Michael Keafer, Dennis Kittler, Jack Kline, Ken Kline, Karen Kurelo, Carol Legenza, Reynaldo Mangila, Joanne Matzke, Mike McCall, Kathleen Miller, Scarlett Moran, Gloria Neitzel, Bruce Newberg, Tho Nguyen, Marian Peterson, Hannah Perkins, Chuck Pruter, Lutie Regan, Clarke Renard, Susan Roman, Patrice Romano, Cindy Schoeps, Diane Schumacher, Frank Scislowski, John Sloan, Larry Sorce, Debra Hershey-Stammet, Judy VanHaxleden, Dan Weiler, Carolyn Wisniewski

St. Vincent de Paul - In the name of Jesus, Vincentians, strive to comfort, feed, clothe, and assist those in need. We serve in person, keeping all things confidential preserving dignity. Call 847.628.5170 and leave a message on the 24 hour answering service.

**Life Matters -** Any woman who is pregnant and in need can turn for help to the pro-life movement. Never feel alone, call Project Rachel at **800.593.2273** the Life Center at **847.622.1235** or Fox Valley Pregnancy at **847.697.0200**.

### **VOCATION CORNER WITH FR. ROMKE** Happy Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God!

Each January 1st we get the opportunity to celebrate and rejoice something very special and exciting: The Motherhood of Mary! I want to emphasize this today because I think that most people when they hear the

words "January 1st" immediately think of New Year's day, and they begin embarking on their resolutions.

And in a way I think that this should show us all something, and that is that for the majority of people (myself included a lot of the time) our world view is dominated by our culture and the busyness around us. If we take this idea beyond how we view January 1st, I think we can see how it is super easy to get caught up in the flow of everything that we're bombarded with that while maybe not bad in itself (New Year's Resolutions are a good thing after all), these things keep us off track and thereby keep us away from fulfilling the purpose that God has created us for. My guess would be that the majority of people plan their lives or even something as simple as their days by contemplating what they want to do, and in doing so fail to let God into the equation!

We should be asking each day: What does God want me to do? After all, this was how Mary lived her life and this is precisely why we're celebrating her today! So if you're still looking for a resolution, make it this: Ask God each day what He wants for you to do . . . then go out and do it!



### **ATTENTION CLASS OF 2021!**



St. Edward Central Catholic H.S. will administer the placement exam for current 8th graders on Saturday, January 7th, 2017. All current 8th graders interested in attending St. Edward must attend. Testing will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m., and will conclude at Noon.

Please download the registration from our website, www.stedhs.org, and bring it to the testing day with the \$15.00 fee. Please contact Mrs. Cholewa at acholewa@stedhs.org with any questions.

# Bereavement Ministry

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.

### REVERSE COLLECTION

Slips for January Reverse Collection will be handed out January 14/15.

The collection will go towards the Crisis Center, Food Pantry and St. Vincent DePaul.

### **Greatest needs for the Crisis Center:**

- Non-perishable food
- Diapers Babies: sizes 4,5,6 & wipes
- Diapers Adult: all sizes
- Deodorant for men & women
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Feminine Hygiene Pads - Regular & Super
- Mini bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion & body wash
- Big bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion & body wash
- Sandwich, quart & gallon size Ziploc & fold bags
- Toilet bowl cleaner, bleach, HE powder laundry detergent
- Toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissue
- Basic office supplies: copy paper, envelopes, pens, highlighters, notepads, paperclips, tape
- Plastic or reusable grocery bags for our food pantry

### Women's Items:

- **Pajamas**
- Slippers
- Hat & Scarf set
- Journals & Pens
- Towel Set
- Alarm Clock Radios
- Wristwatches
- Fleece Blanket or Afahan
- Lotion & Shower Gel
- Calendars-Planners-Purse Sizes

### THANK YOU!

The Food Pantry of Elgin wishes to thank you for your ongoing support. They are deeply appreciated and believe that your donations represent an investment in ongoing hope.



### MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Supernatural communication was nothing new for Mary. The angel Gabriel had already appeared and spoken to her when she agreed to bear God's Son. Her husband Joseph also had a kind of divine intervention in the dream where the angel told him to go ahead and marry her. When she was first pregnant, her cousin Elizabeth had been led by the Holy Spirit to

know the secret that Mary was "the mother of my Lord" (Lk 1:43). Now, Jesus has just been born and a crew of earthy shepherds appears at her door with a message from heaven: that the Savior has been born. And Mary believed them. She did not doubt their sincerity or the authenticity of their message. She took the words to heart, and meditated upon the meaning of it all.

What might strike us as peculiar in all of this is that God chose to speak to Mary in a variety of ways. This holy and immaculate woman, this Mother of God, did not always receive direct communication from on high. Sometimes, God chose to speak to her through other people. Sometimes, he revealed himself to them in order to reveal himself to her. And God does the same with us.

It's easy to daydream about having our own personal revelation from God, to hear his voice loud and clear, directing, encouraging, and supporting us in our times of need and confusion. But this isn't the standard pattern of God's operation. Mary was tuned in enough to hear God's voice all around her instead of expecting it to always sound the same. We can imitate this same kind of openness by seeking to discover how God may be speaking to us through the voices of others.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2017

Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98/Jn 1:19-28 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98/Jn 1:29-34 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98/Jn 1:35-42 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100/Jn 1:43-51

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28

or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149/Jn 2:1-11

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### WOMEN'S RETREAT – DISCOVER YOUR FEMININE GENIUS!

When was the last time you stopped to reflect on who you are and the gifts you bring to the world? Join your sisters in exploring what Pope Saint John Paul II calls our 'feminine genius' and the unique role each woman has in bringing our culture back to focus on humanity. Women can choose to attend this event as an overnight retreat from January 20th-21st, or as a day retreat on January 21st. This retreat is being presented in partnership by ENDOW: Educating on the Nature & Dignity of Women and the Life & Family Evangelization Office at Bishop Lane Retreat Center. For more information, cost, and registration options, visit

www.RockfordDiocese.org/LiFE or contact the LiFE Office at (815) 399-4300.

Please register by January 6th.

### Q. & A. OF THE WEEK

Q: January 1, New Year's Day, has a number of liturgical names celebrating a variety of events.

Could you sort some of this out?

**A.** January 1, New Year's Day, celebrates newness. Exactly eight days after Christmas, traditionally it celebrates Mary as the Mother of God. The Greek word for Mary's motherhood is Theotokos, meaning "God-bearer." Becoming official church teaching at the Council of Ephesus in 381, this is one of the most ancient and important titles given to Mary. Chapter VIII of the Vatican II document, Lumen

Gentium, which addresses Mary's role in Christian life, refers to her by that title no less than twelve times.

Eight days after the birth of a Jewish male, circumcision was demanded by Jewish law. January 1 also commemorates the circumcision of Jesus. The Gospel reading for the day from Luke recounts the shepherds' visit, the completion of the eight days leading to circumcision, and naming the baby Jesus, according to the angel's direction previous to his conception.

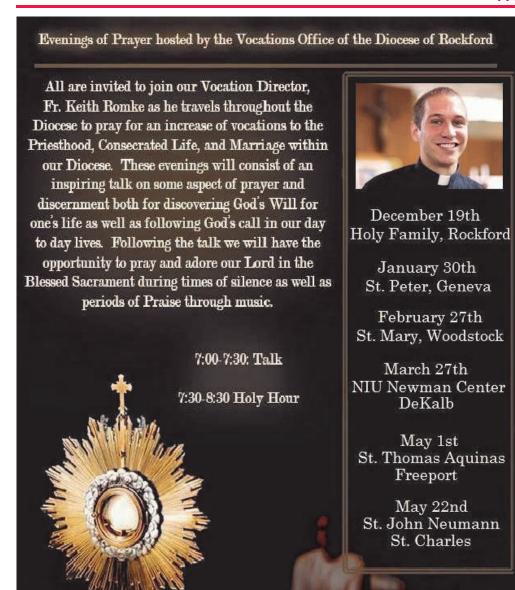
Beginning in 1967, Pope Paul VI requested that this day be set aside

as a day of prayer for world peace. For over forty years popes have issued a message encouraging prayer as well as action toward the establishment of world peace.

If we used today to be as loving to others as mothers are to their children, this might be the year that peace becomes a reality. That reality may move us all to renew our commitment to God symbolized by

Jesus' circumcision. So maybe these various celebrations do link together.







### January 21-22, 2017

The National Appeal reflects the varied ways we seek to communicate Christ's message.

- Retirement Fund for Religious
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- **Catholic Communication Campaign**
- Catholic University of America
- Rockford Diocesan Priests' Pension
- **Catholic Elementary School Financial Support for the Diocese of Rockford**

Please bring the National Appeal envelope to Mass, or donate online at www.rockforddiocese.org/donate



### HOPE FOR HAITIANS

and our STM Committee are looking for some new volunteers to join us! Please consider making this small commitment that could make such a large impact on the lives of so many for the people in Haiti. We only meet a few times per year. STM has been a blessing with the success of Lenten campaians and the wonderful gifts given for the people in Haiti. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, travel with Hope for Haitians, or volunteer even just once or twice per year please contact Amy McTeague amy@hopeforhaitians.org **630-730-0227** or the parish for more information.

### The Virgin Mary Revealed **Through Scripture**

Drawing on his Protestant roots, Dr. Scott Hahn responds to key misunderstandings about the Virgin Mary. This captivating presentation explains the biblical and historical basis for the Church's teachings that the Virgin Mary is the New Eve and the Queen of Heaven.



### PARISH CALENDAR

Mary, The Holy Mother of God						
DATE	TIME	EVENT				
<b>Monday</b> January 2		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED				
<b>Tuesday</b> January 3						
<b>Wednesday</b> January 4	9:00 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Eucharistic Adoration –Chapel Benediction –Chapel Bible Study –Canterbury Rm High School Choir –Lancaster Rm RCIA –Chelsea Rm Adult Choir –Lancaster Rm				

Th	U	S	d	a	y	
						_

6:30 pm Spred –Canterbury Rm January 5

### Friday

Women's Prayer Group 9:15 am January 6 -Canterbury Rm

Saturday January 7 5:00 pm RCIA -Tudor Rm

## **Word Search**

Circle these words from today's Gospel in the puzzle:

MARY JOSEPH BABY			SHEPHERDS JESUS ANGEL				LISTENED WONDERFUL NAMED				
В	Ν	J	D	Ν	В	М	Α	W	G	С	
F	Α	Ν	U	Ε	0	R	Ι	0	K	Т	
S	M	Υ	L	1	S	Т	Ε	Ν	Ε	D	
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-1	L	R	В	٧	Р	Υ	Α	R	U	C	
J	0	S	Ε	Р	Н	Α	G	F	Ν	В	
D	Н	Υ	W	Т	Ε	K	W	U	J	M	
W	G	K	0	Т	R	C	S	L	Н	Α	
Ε	Ι	М	R	C	D	U	Р	Ε	D	R	
Α	J	Ε	S	U	S	L	В	Α	В	(Y)	

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 2

8:30 am Bill Thomas, Robert Kerr

Tuesday, January 3

8:30 am St. Jude, Vincent Michienzi

Wednesday, January 4

8:30 am Ruth & Robert Evans, Margaureti Moskals

January 5 Thursday,

8:30 am Tom & Laverne Gibson

Friday, January 6

8:30 am All Souls, Severino Aldave

Saturday, January 7

5:00 pm People of STM, Meadow Ann Loureiro

Sunday, **January 8** 

8:00 am Alice Gasper, Menke Family Intention Emilie Saindon, Harriet Ostdick Doherty 10:00 am

12:00 pm Catherine & Joseph Zarcone

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: JANUARY 7/8

### **Presiders**

5:00 pm Father Rich

8:00 am Father Rich

10:00 am Father Rich

12:00 pm Father Rich

### **Altar Servers**

5:00 pm EJ Ave, I Burnett, C Kriens

8:00 am M Brammer, A Calero, M Calero

10:00 am M Astudillo, A Meyer, M Puchek

12:00 pm C Costales, H Herrero, A Stuart

### Lectors

5:00 pm B Freitag

8:00 am C Kuryla, L West

10:00 am C Malm, L Merced

12:00 pm C Arciuch

### Musicians

5:00 pm TPobojewski, S Ward, G Andorka, M Nguyen

8:00 am M Weller, K Lockard, M Gumapas,

S Bestler, JA Aukofer

10:00 am Adult Choir

12:00 pm J Garza, J Ave, C Olson

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

5:00 pm L Asmussen, V Sloan, J Taeyaerts, G McGann,

D Etemick, B Newton, T Etemick

8:00 am J Whitchurch, L Boehm, L Becci, L Carlsen,

M Beckman, J Roder, M Gogoel

10:00 am C Puchek, A Hall, S Hall, M Thompson,

D Varley, MJ Battaglia, A Battaglia,

MP Berens, B Pruter

12:00 pm G Stuart, C Voris, K Wright, G Lagunilla,

E Rafael, G Stevens, C Hopkins

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