



## FATHER BROWNING...

### THOUGHTS, SCRIPTURE, AND MORE.



#### The effects of sin

Sin is enemy number two. What are the consequences of sin? What was the result of the Fall of our first parents? Often, we answer this by saying the consequences of sin are separation from God,

which is true, to be sure! But it doesn't grasp the whole horror of the bad news. And I don't know about you, but when I was younger, this didn't matter to me. "So what?" I thought. "I'm separated from God. What's the big deal about that?"

The full force of the result of sin is better understood when we realize that our first parents unknowingly sold the whole human race into slavery to powers against whom we cannot compete. These powers include Sin and Death, which are best understood by being written with capital letters. Sin is not only something I do or don't do; it is first, and foremost a power, similar to an authority,

continually trying to exert pressure on me to cooperate in its rebellion. It's rather easy to prove by our experience. Have you ever done something you *knew* you shouldn't do, and you didn't *want* to do — in fact, perhaps you *hated* doing — but you did it anyway (see Romans 7:19)? Oh yeah, me neither! Have you ever wondered why? The Power of Sin is the answer (see Romans 3:9 and 6:1ff).

Without God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, we are powerless to overcome sin. It's not enough for us to repent, as crucial as that is; we need to be delivered from the tyranny of sin.

It is easier to see that we are under the Power of Death. No matter how much money I have, no matter the medical care I have access to, no matter what area of the world I live in, the best I can do is delay death. It comes for us all, and anyone who has ever been there at the bedside of a loved one watching them

breathe their last knows painfully well how truly powerless we are in the face of this horrific power.

#### A modern-day image

The most powerful way to enter into this part of the kerygma is to pray with the image of a human trafficker, a modern travesty of unimaginable proportions. The human race, because of the Fall, is in the hands of a human trafficker. We are being exploited, used, and abused by our captor. And there is no way out unless someone stronger comes to the rescue.

Praise God. Jesus came to rescue us from the strong man (Matthew 12:29). This week in pray with the terrible news of sin and death and recognize that there is no way to save yourself from them. If you do, next week, you will be prepared to surrender your life to the Good News.

In Christ Jesus,  
Fr. Browning

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St. Thomas More Catholic Church

[www.stthomasmorechurch.org](http://www.stthomasmorechurch.org)



**Pastor**  
Reverend Ryan Browning  
[rbrowning@stthomasmorechurch.org](mailto:rbrowning@stthomasmorechurch.org)  
[www.fatherbrowning.com](http://www.fatherbrowning.com)

**Deacons**  
Jack Roder

**Parish Office** - 847.888.1682  
Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:00pm

**School Office** - 847.742.3959  
[www.stmcentral.org](http://www.stmcentral.org)

**Religious Ed. Office** - 847.888.4887

**Parish Staff**  
Visit our website for a staff listing  
[www.stthomasmorechurch.org/staff](http://www.stthomasmorechurch.org/staff)

## St. Vincent de Paul

### Are you in need?

In the name of Jesus, we strive to comfort, feed, clothe, and assist those in need. We serve in person, keeping all things confidential and preserving dignity. Please call our answering machine at **847.628.5170**.

### Do you feel called to serve?

We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm alternating between St. Laurence and St. Thomas respectively. For more information, please contact conference president

**Christa** at [StThomasMoreElginSVDP@gmail.com](mailto:StThomasMoreElginSVDP@gmail.com).

Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/SVDPSTM](http://www.facebook.com/SVDPSTM)



## SACRAMENTS

For a more in-depth look at the sacraments, please visit our parish website [www.stthomasmorechurch.org](http://www.stthomasmorechurch.org).

**Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard every Wednesday 9:00-10:00am and Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm. Appointments can also be made for confessions to be heard when needed.

**Baptism:** Children of all ages and adults are welcome to the sacrament of Baptism. Baptism for children is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month at 1:00pm. 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 arrangements. Adults seeking Baptism should contact Linda McEwan at [lmcewan@stthomasmorechurch.org](mailto:lmcewan@stthomasmorechurch.org).

**Matrimony:** Baptized Catholics are called to be married in the Catholic Church. Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.

If you were married outside of the Catholic Church and would like to have your marriage blessed, we would be happy to guide you in that process.

Call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest to begin all marriage preparation.

**Anointing of the Sick:** The anointing of the sick is administered to bring spiritual and physical strength during an illness, for those having surgery, and for those near death. Call the parish office to make arrangements to receive this sacrament.

## With Sympathy

+ RITA WIEDENFELD



## Prayer Requests

Join us in praying for members of our community who are sick or ailing. To add or remove a name on our prayer list, please call the parish office 847.888.1682. To keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for 3 months. After that time, please contact the parish office to renew names.

†All Souls in Purgatory  
†Brad Abell  
†Marge Banker  
†Chuck Benson  
†John Bertram  
†Reylando S. Brillo  
†Gisella Calo  
†Gracie Canning  
†Ann Marie Carlsen  
†J. Connell  
†Jessica Connell  
†Dan Coyle  
†Ruth Cullian  
†Julie Daly  
†John Demstron  
†Paulo Ella  
†Bridget Ernst  
†Dominick Girardi  
†Angela Guasta  
†Vincent Guasta  
†Gail Hand  
†Stephanie Hand  
†Frank Iori  
†Christina Johnson  
†Joan Knott  
†Stephen Lange  
†Dennis Lisiecki, Jr.

†Jenny Lisiecki  
†Freddyanto Lourits  
†Reynaldo Mangila  
†Bill Matejka  
†Jeanne Matsukis  
†Belinda Mockler  
†Jim Molitor  
†Bill Moylan  
†Rolando Narboneta  
†Gloria Neitzel  
†Delphine Ornelas  
†Bruce Ostidick  
†Deacon Robert Plazewski  
†Charles Pruter  
†Lutie Regan  
†Elizabeth Rottmann  
†Louis Scatena  
†Cindy Schoeps  
†Conni Schultz  
†Diane Schumacher  
†Soraya Senang  
†James Shumaker  
†Florian Tylman  
†Mary Ann Vandervalk  
†Bob Voegtle  
†Keith Williams

## 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.

# Stewardship

## 2019 September Stewardship

Budget.....	\$100,000.00
Stewardship .....	\$89,662.00
Variance .....	(\$10,338.00)

## September Tithe

St. Vincent DePaul Society .....	\$650.00
Elgin Community College	
Phi Theta Kappa Food Pantry .....	\$510.00
Norther Illinois Food Bank for Feeding Greater Elgin .....	\$510.00
PADS .....	\$510.00
Christmas Food Baskets.....	\$510.00

## DIAL Loan

Balance as of 9/30/19 .....	\$289,000.00
Interest paid in September.....	\$758.22
Principal paid in September.....	\$6,000.00

**2019 | DIOCESAN APPEAL**  
DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

**TOTAL PLEDGED**  
\$114,186.41

**PLEDGE BALANCE**  
\$27,127.68

**TOTAL PAID**  
\$87,058.73  
(as of 9/30/19)

Through the 2019 Diocesan Appeal,  
we all work together to change lives.  
Please join in and make your gift today!

[www.rockforddiocese.org/donate](http://www.rockforddiocese.org/donate)

## Help wanted!



We are in need of more volunteers to help with Friendship Sunday. It is only once a month and your time commitment is about an hour.

We need help with

the **8:00 Mass** and the **10:00 Mass**. This is a perfect opportunity for couples and families to volunteer together. Please contact **Sharon Hall** today to volunteer [shall@stthomasmorechurch.org](mailto:shall@stthomasmorechurch.org) or **847.888.1682 x216**.

## Bereavement Ministry

Trained volunteers are available to provide spiritual support and comfort to all parishioners mourning a death loss. Please call the parish office at **847.888.1682**.

## 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**.



### Sunday

Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 2]/2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8

### Monday

Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [cf. 68] /Lk 12:13-21

### Tuesday

Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [8a and 9a]/Lk 12:35-38

### Wednesday

Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 [8a]/Lk 12:39-48

### Thursday

Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5]/Lk 12:49-53

### Friday

Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94 [68b] /Lk 12:54-59

### Saturday

Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Lk 13:1-9

### Next Sunday

Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 [7a]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14



From September 25 through November 3, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside at 3055 E. New York Ave., Aurora, IL 60504, across the street from Planned Parenthood, and also spread the word about this important community outreach. St. Thomas More will participate in this year's campaign on **November 1st**, which is the Solemnity of All Saints. If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact **Sharon Hall** at **847.888.1682 ext. 216** or [shall@stthomasmorechurch.org](mailto:shall@stthomasmorechurch.org).

## Religious Education

St. Thomas More took a bus of teens to Holy Hill in Wisconsin for the Fire on the Hill - St. John Bosco Youth Day this past October 5<sup>th</sup>. Rain and cold did not extinguish the power of the Holy Spirit! We enjoyed a day of awesome talks, music, holy hour and Jesus!



### MISSION APPEAL

This weekend we will hold the annual collection for the Mission Appeal.

Please consider giving a gift to the Mission Appeal. Look for your Mission Appeal envelope in the mail and bring it to Mass with you or donate online at [www.rockforddiocese.org/donate](http://www.rockforddiocese.org/donate).



## Girls Volleyball

- **October 21-25**  
5th/6th Grade Conference Tournament @St. Catherine's
- **October 25-26**  
7th/8th Grade Conference Tournament @St. Thomas More

To see the full schedule and detail of away games visit <https://stmcentral.org/sports-schedules>

WOMEN OF ALL AGES JOIN US FOR FUN, FOOD, SPIRITUALITY, MUSIC AND NEW FRIENDSHIPS IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS!

## Advent By Candlelight

St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Elgin  
December 6th - 6:00 - 8:45



Kendra Von Esh is a Speaker and Author who left her executive career to inspire others to deepen their relationship with God. Join us as she shares her journey!

COME ENJOY THE CANDLE LIT BEAUTY, MEET SPIRITUAL COMPANIONS. BE MOVED BY MUSIC AND CONTEMPLATE INSPIRING REFLECTIONS!

Event is FREE- Registration before and after Mass on November 16th and 17th  
Or Contact Mariana Maloney 224-805-7904/[mariana.maloney@yahoo.com](mailto:mariana.maloney@yahoo.com)

## The Agape Ringers Concert



Join us in the Church on **Sunday, October 27th** at **4:00pm** for a concert by **The Agape Ringers**, Chicago's premier handbell ensemble. You can learn more about the ensemble at their website [www.AgapeRingers.org](http://www.AgapeRingers.org), and on Facebook and YouTube by searching for "The Agape Ringers."

The program encompasses a wide variety of musical styles. **Tickets** are **\$10** and can be purchased in the church office. They can also be purchased in the Gathering Space the weekends of October 6th and 20th, as well as the day of the concert at the door. Checks can be made to St. Thomas More.

## Great Lakes Men's Conference

Mark your calendars for the **Great Lakes 25th Annual Catholic Men's Conference** on **Saturday, November 23rd** at the **Holmes Student Center** at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. It will be from **8:50am -4:00pm**. Tickets include lunch and free parking. Cost is \$40.00 if registration is mailed by November 1st, \$45.00 if purchased after November 1st, \$50.00 at the door, \$15.00 for college students or younger, \$5.00 for Deacons. Contact **Keith Williams** at **847.669.4811** or visit the Conference website at [www.thetalk.org](http://www.thetalk.org).

## New Volunteer Opportunity

**PADS** (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) is our local shelter for those without one. They are located at 1730 Berkley in Elgin near Elgin Community College. They are looking for volunteers to help with serving lunch. They serve lunch Monday-Friday 11am-1pm and have a site coordinator who works with their guests during the day hours but they are looking for an extra set of hands to warm up lunch, serve and clean up and put away leftovers. Volunteer as many days you are schedule might allow. If you are interested please contact **Sharon Hall** at [shall@stthomasmorechurch.org](mailto:shall@stthomasmorechurch.org) or **847.888.1682 x216**.

## October Reverse Collection

Slips will be handed out the weekend of **October 19th & 20th**. Items will be brought to the church on **October 26th & 27th**. Your generous donations will be collected for **ECC Food Pantry, St. Vincent De Paul and Soup Kitchen**.

### Soup Kitchen would like the following items...

- Coffee (not decaf)
- Coffee filter – 8 to 12 cup size
- Lemonade/sweetened ice tea container
- Dish soap
- Foam dinner 10" plate
- Foam bowls 5 ounce
- Foam bowls 10 ounce
- Foam coffee cups 8 ounce
- Paper napkins
- Plastic silverware—forks/knives/spoons
- Men's tube socks for size 6-12
- Women's socks above ankle length size 5-9
- Grocery store gift cards to purchase fresh food

All 5th-8th grade boys and their families are invited to our

## FALL OPEN HOUSE

**Sunday, November 3, 2019 at 1 PM**  
(Doors open at 12:30 PM, please use Regate Field House Door #7)

**RSVP to attend our OPEN HOUSE and you could win a Marmion Academy tuition voucher\* worth \$500!!!**

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\*Tuition voucher drawing to be held at the Open House on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2019 at 1:00 PM sharp. Doors open at 12:30 PM. Must be present to win. Eligible for new students only.

For additional information call **630-897-6936** or visit us at **MARMION.ORG**  
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## Christmas Wreath Sale 2019

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Help those in need in our Elgin community this holiday season by purchasing a beautiful Christmas Wreath. Orders will be taken after Mass on **November 2nd, November 3rd, November 9th, and November 10th**. The ordered wreaths will be distributed Thanksgiving weekend.



## Presiders

### Weekend for Oct. 26th & 27th.

#### **PRESIDERS**

**5:00 pm** Fr. Browning      **10:00 am** Fr. Deitz  
**8:00 am** Msgr. Linster      **12:00 pm** Fr. Browning

## Heavens Children's Mass

The Women of St. Bridget's organization is hosting a special Mass of remembrance on **Monday, November 4th at 7:00pm** for those children who have been taken to heaven too soon, through miscarriage, stillbirth, or early childhood death. If you would like your child to be included in this Mass, please submit their name and date born into eternity to Diantha Gilbert at [diantha.gilbert@gmail.com](mailto:diantha.gilbert@gmail.com) or call **815.978.9848** before Wednesday, October 30th. All are welcome to attend and light refreshments will be served after the Mass.

## Bulletin Deadlines

NOV. 3RD BULLETIN	NOV. 10TH BULLETIN
Materials Due: October 21, 2019	2019 ANNUAL REPORT

## Mass Intentions for the Week

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.

monday <b>OCT 21</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> Denny Sarangaya, Araceli Olanda
tuesday <b>OCT 22</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> Christine Baczek, Billy Zumbek
wednesday <b>OCT 23</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> Bob Cundiff, Patricia & Jack O'Connor
thursday <b>OCT 24</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> Michael & Jacquelin Winn, John Henn (sp.int., 60th anniversary)
friday <b>OCT 25</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> Stephen Branz
saturday <b>OCT 26</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b> Jim & Ted McGann, Ray & Gert Bohne
sunday <b>OCT 27</b>	<b>8:00 am</b> Karen Hartwell, Theresa Pitt <b>10:00 am</b> Wilfred & Loretta Kiebert, People of STM <b>12:00 pm</b> Robert & Carol Treder, Rev. Arnel Estrella (sp.int., 60th anniversary)

monday <b>OCT 21</b>	tuesday <b>OCT 22</b>	wednesday <b>OCT 23</b>	thursday <b>OCT 24</b>	friday <b>OCT 25</b>	saturday <b>OCT 26</b>
<b>4:30 pm</b> @LANCASTER Youth Choir  <b>6:00 pm</b> @LANCASTER High School Choir  <b>6:30 pm</b> @WESTMINSTER Deaf Ministry	<b>7:00 pm</b> @CHELSEA St. Vincent De Paul	<b>9:00 am</b> @CHAPEL Eucharistic Adoration  <b>3:00 pm</b> @CANTERBURY Bible Study  <b>4:00 pm</b> @CHAPEL Benediction  <b>5:30 pm</b> @CAMBRIDGE Bell Choir  <b>7:00 pm</b> @CHELSEA RCIA  <b>7:00 pm</b> @LANCASTER Adult Choir	<b>9:00 am</b> @TUDOR Women's Intercessory Prayer Group  <b>6:00 pm</b> @CANTERBURY, WESTMINSTER Spred	<b>9:15 am</b> @CANTERBURY Women's Rosary Group	<b>7:00 am</b> @CHELSEA That Man Is You!  <b>8:30 am</b> @CANTERBURY Bereavement Ministry  @GATHERING SPACE Reverse Collection Donations will be collected

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