



FATHER BROWNING...

THOUGHTS, SCRIPTURE, AND MORE.

THE KERYGMA, PART 3.2

The Passion

We can view God's rescue of His creature made in His image and likeness and destined to share in His divine nature from many angles. I want to look at God's rescue through a question: Is Jesus the hunted or the hunter in His passion and death? Is He the victim or aggressor?

You may think the answer to that question is obvious - Jesus was arrested, chained, condemned, scourged, crowned with thorns, and nailed to a cross. He's the hunted and the victim. Is He, though? Jesus is God, after all. He is the Second Person of the Trinity made flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary. How is it possible to nail God to the Cross? Is there a nail big enough? There is only one way for God to get nailed to a cross. He has to want to be there. Ponder that

for a minute. Jesus has to want to be on that cross - the worst instrument of torture ever known to humans. There are three basic ways to understand the passion of Jesus.

The first way to understand Jesus' passion is to see it as the revelation of God's love. Have you ever seen the guy at a sporting event holding the John 3:16 sign: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." Jesus tells us, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). Praise God that this is true. Praise God for many people are deeply moved when they hear and see the message of God's love for them on the Cross.

A second way of understanding Jesus' passion is to recognize that Jesus on the Cross is making atonement for our sins. St. Paul puts it this way: "For our sake he made

him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21). St. Peter also speaks of this: "He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). The truth is that Jesus offered Himself as the sacrifice for our sins. We do not understand this as well because we do not think our sins are that bad. Jesus didn't need to go through all of that for me.

Pray this week through these two understandings of Jesus' passion. Allow the Lord to show you the reality of His love and the reality of our sin. Next time we will tackle the third way of understanding His passion.

In His Passion,
Fr. Browning

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St. Thomas More Catholic Church

www.stthomasmorechurch.org



Pastor
Reverend Ryan Browning
rbrowning@stthomasmorechurch.org
www.fatherbrowning.com

Deacons
Jack Roder

Parish Office - 847.888.1682
Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm

School Office - 847.742.3959
www.stmcentral.org

Religious Ed. Office - 847.888.4887

Parish Staff
Visit our website for a staff listing
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.

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SVDPSTM



SACRAMENTS

For a more in-depth look at the sacraments, please visit our parish website
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.

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

- **MICHAEL J. VOGEL** (Brother of Lorraine Darr)
- **MARGARET WATSON** (Mother of Marilyn Bauman)



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
† Karen Brummel
† Chuck Benson
† John Bertram
† Gisella Calo
† Gracie Canning
† J. Connell
† Jessica Connell
† Dan Coyle
† Ruth Cullian
† Juanita Cundiff
† Julie Daly
† Reyes Diaz
† John Demstron
† Bridget Ernst
† Dominick Girardi
† Kathy Hamilton
† Gail Hand
† Stephanie Hand
† Maximina Huizar
† Frank Iori
† Tadeusz Krasowski
† Stephen Lange

† Dennis Lisiecki, Jr.
† Jenny Lisiecki
† Ann Marie LoPiccolo-Carlsen
† Jeanne Matsukis
† Belinda Mockler
† Jim Molitor
† Reynaldo Mangila
† Bill Moylan
† Gloria Neitzel
† Delphine Ornelas
† Deacon Robert Plazewski
† Charles Pruter
† Lutie Regan
† Conni Schultz
† Diane Schumacher
† Soraya Senang
† James Shumaker
† Mary Ann Vandervalk
† Clementina Valenzuela
† Angel Vega
† Bob Voegtle
† Keith Williams
† Carol White
† Dave White

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.

Camp WOW!

Camp WOW 2020 registration is open! What is Camp WOW?? It's a 5 day, 4 night Catholic Summer Camp! The dates for Summer 2020 will be **June 22-26th**. All students currently in 6th, 7th or 8th grade are welcome! Camp takes place at Dickson Valley Camp in Newark, IL. Join us for 5 days of swimming, prayer, archery, bible study, campfires, indoor gym and climbing wall, worship, sports, music, skits and more! Cost is \$300. Space is limited!! To register please email **Emily Stuckey** at Estuckey@stthomasmorechurch.org or fill out the application on the parish website under Youth Ministry.

Hat-urday

TO KEEP OTHERS WARM

Attention all knitters and crochet enthusiasts! Let's get together for "Hat-urday To Keep Others Warm" **Saturday, December 7** from **10:00am-12:00pm**. We will create as many hats as possible to share with those in our community in need of a hat to keep warm. We will have super simple hat patterns for knit or crochet. We will have some yarn to share but you are welcome to bring your own. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet please come and we will teach you! Bring your friend and neighbors, all are welcome! For more information contact **Sharon Hall** at **847.888.1682 x216** shall@stthomasmorechurch.org

Eucharistic Adoration

We still need EUCHARISTIC GUARDIANS to spend time in the presence of our Lord. Do you have one hour? Reserve your spot today! We need guardians:

Wednesdays 10:00 to 11:00 am and 11:00 to noon.

For more information, contact; **Larry Pelkowski** **470-214-4865** or email **Cynthia** at JMJ47@comcast.net

"I would like to recall the priority of prayer over action since it is on prayer that the effectiveness of action depends. The Church's mission largely depends on each person's personal relationship with the Lord Jesus and must, therefore, be nourished by prayer: 'It is time to reaffirm the importance of prayer in the face of the activism and the growing secularism.' (Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritatis Est, n, 37)

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**.



Join us for Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9AM.

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday the parish office will be closed on:

- **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28**
- **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29**



Sunday

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 1:12-20 /Lk 23:35-43

Monday

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday

Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday

Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b] /Lk 21:20-28

Friday

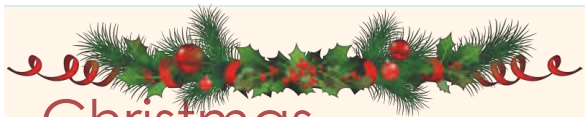
Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday

Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10 or Jn 6:63] /Mt 4:18-22

Next Sunday

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Rom 13:11-14 /Mt 24:37-44



Christmas Grocery Shopping Bags

We will once again be handing out shopping bags and grocery lists for you to take and fill for the needy in our community this Christmas. We have several volunteer opportunities this year for our shopping bag and gift giving program for St. Vincent DePaul.

- I will take a shopping bag and grocery list on the weekend of December 14 & 15 and return the filled shopping bag on the weekend of December 21 & 22.
- I will volunteer to sort incoming shopping bags after a Mass on the weekend of December 21 & 22.
- I will deliver shopping bags and gifts to the home of a needy family on Sunday, December 22 at 1:00pm.
- I will deliver shopping bags of food to the food pantry at Elgin Community College on Sunday, December 22 at 1:00pm.
- I would like to adopt a family and purchase their Christmas gifts.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

You can also sign up at our parish website for any of these volunteer opportunities. For more information contact **Sharon Hall 847.888.1682 x216** shall@stthomasmorechurch.org.

**Return this form to the Parish
Welcome Center by December 8th.**



APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS QUARTET

AN EVENING OF TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS HYMNS

HEAR THE SOUNDS OF
THE HAMMERED DULCIMER - MANDOLA
FIFE - TIN CAN - NOSE FLUTE - GUITARS
CALF BOTTLES - MOUNTAIN DULCIMER
WASHBOARD - BODHRAN - ACCORDION
PENNY WHISTLE - MANDO-CELLO
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EDCCW

Put holiday shopping, wrapping, and baking on hold for an evening, and join us for an uplifting Advent Evening of Reflection and Prayer! The Elgin Deanery Council of Catholic Women (EDCCW) invite all women of the Elgin Deanery (*bring a friend!*) to join us **Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00 pm.** Fr. Andrew Mulcahey will present this wonderful evening at **St. Laurence Church, 225 Jewett Street, Elgin. Come and be inspired!** Questions? Contact EDCCW President **Pat Lopatowski** at patlopat@comcast.net.

Blood Drive

St. Patrick and St John Neumann churches will be holding their quarterly drive with Versiti (formerly Heartland Blood Centers) at St. John Neumann Church on **December 2, 2019** from 2:00 to 7:25 PM. The address is 2900 East Main Street in St. Charles. Versiti will thank each donor with a pulled pork sandwich, snacks and points to redeem on its website.

A photo ID is required. For donors age 16, a permission form signed by a parent or guardian is required. This can be downloaded from the Heartland site: <http://www.heartlandbc.org/permission-slip/>.

Questions on the donation process can be directed to Versiti Blood Centers at 800-786-4483. For signing up contact **Brian Watkins** at blooddrive.sp.sjn@aol.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

The recipients thank you for your life-saving gift.

Stewardship

2019 October Stewardship

Budget	\$80,000.00
Stewardship	\$77,761.00
Variance	(\$2,239.00)

October Tithe

St. Vincent DePaul Society	\$650.00
Mercy Home	\$560.00
PADS	\$560.00
Christmas Food Baskets.....	\$560.00

DIAL Loan

Balance as of 10/31/19	\$285,100.00
Interest paid-to-date	\$2,503.97

DIAL Loan - School Roof

Interest paid in October 2019	\$1,055.34
Principal paid in October 2019	\$3,900.00

Diocesan Stewardship

Goal	\$115,181.00
Needed to reach goal	\$23,983.00

Sharing Tree

Next weekend, you will find our annual Sharing Tree, which helps those in need in our community, decorated with color-coded angel tags, located in the Gathering Space. Parishioners are encouraged to take one or more colored gift tags from the tree, purchase the item, and place the **unwrapped** gift under the tree with the colored gift tag attached.

TAG COLOR CODE

Green: Corbella Clinic
-Babies

Red: Community
Crisis Center-Children
& Teens

Gold: Elgin Mental
Health Center-Men
and Women

Blue: St. Vincent de
Paul Society-Men
and Women



The final date that gifts can be placed under the tree is Sunday, December 15.

29th ANNUAL

Marmion Christmas Craft Show

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2019 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2019 (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
BLOODY MARY & MIMOSA BAR (CASH BAR AVAILABLE SUNDAY ONLY, 21 & OLDER)

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VISIT MARMION.ORG/CRAFTSHOW FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. PLEASE BRING THIS AD \$2.00 OFF THE PRICE OF ADMISSION.

Religious Education

Nora Weiler is a parishioner at STM that came to the RE classes on Tuesday, November 12th to share a relic that



her family has of Padre Pio. We took the opportunity to have a "Saints Assembly" to learn and pray with the saints

STM School

For All Saints Day, the fifth grade students at STM School each chose a saint they wanted to learn more about. Then at the All Saints Day Mass, they delivered short presentations on what they learned while dressed as their chosen saint. Everyone at Mass enjoyed learning more about these saints.



Presiders

Weekend for Nov. 30 & Dec 01.

PRESIDERS

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



WINTER WEAR COLLECTION

Collections can be delivered to any of the Elgin Fire Stations. Locations available at: cityofelgin.org/firestations

COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER always hope...

Winter outerwear is being accepted for donation not through December 25, 2019 at all Elgin fire stations.

Bulletin Deadlines

ACCELERATED HOLIDAY DEADLINES

DEC 8TH BULLETIN	DEC 15TH BULLETIN
Materials Due: November 25, 2019	Materials Due: December 2, 2019

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 NOV 25	8:30 am Jessie Ciffo, Anne Bradley (sp. Int.)
tuesday NOV 26	8:30 am Jim & Marian Walsh (53rd Anniversary) Laura Mangila
wednesday NOV 27	8:30 am Frank Wisz, Danielle Kamp
thursday NOV 28	9:00 am Ella Chafee
friday NOV 29	8:30 am Charlene Centanni, William Chwee
saturday NOV 30	5:00 pm Marie Dudek, Deacon Greg Stevens
sunday DEC 01	8:00 am Arnett Rakowski, Frank Marack 10:00 am People of STM, Linda Headley 12:00 pm Gerard Barnicle, John Pamorada

monday NOV 25	tuesday NOV 26	wednesday NOV 27	thursday NOV 28	friday NOV 29	saturday NOV 30
9:00 am @WESTMINSTER Advent Study 4:30 pm @LANCASTER Youth Choir 6:00 pm @LANCASTER High School Choir 6:30 pm @WESTMINSTER Advent Study	7:00 pm @CHELSEA St Vincent De Paul	9:00 am @CHAPEL Eucharistic Adoration 3:00 pm @CANTERBURY Bible Study 4:00 pm @CHAPEL Benediction 5:30 pm @CAMBRIDGE Bell Choir 7:00 pm @CHURCH Adult Choir	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 am @CHURCH, LANCASTER Adult Choir 9:00 am @CHURCH THANKSGIVING DAY MASS	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	7:30 pm @LANCASTER Servant Choir @GATHERING SPACE Reverse Collection Donations will be collected



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It runs from October 15th - December 7th each year.

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