

MARCH 06, 2022

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC PARISH \$ ESTABLISHED 1959

THE GOOD SERVANT

"Earth hath no sorrow that heaven cannot heal." - St. Thomas More



Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

Father "Ejay" Edil Jarapa
associate@stthomasmorechurch.org

Deacons

Mr. Jack Roder
Mr. David Deitz

Parish Staff

stthomasmorechurch.org/staff

www.stthomasmorechurch.org

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 8:30 AM 5 PM
Sunday 8 AM 10 AM 12 PM

Daily Mass Schedule

Rosary 8:00 AM
Daily 8:30 AM

Reconciliation

Tuesday 5:30 PM
Thursday 9 AM
Saturday 9 AM 1 PM

Perpetual Adoration

Sunday 1 PM - **Saturday** 1 PM
stthomasmorechurch.org/adoration

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4:30 PM
847.888.1682

School Office

stmelgin.org
847.742.3959

Faith Formation Office

stthomasmorechurch.org
/religious-education
847.888.4887

847.888.1682

PARISH GREETINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

WELCOME Parishioners

Our Mission is to embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ (sacrificial love of God and others) through living a Catholic life strengthened by the Sacraments, nourished by a dedicated prayer life and lived out by loving service to all peoples. Join us and find the purpose and meaning that leads to the fullness of life.

SACRAMENTAL Information

Baptism

stthomasmorechurch.org/baptism

Baptism for children is celebrated Sundays at 1:00pm. See our website for more information.

Matrimony

stthomasmorechurch.org/marriage

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

Sick & Homebound

Call the parish office if you are unable to come to church and would like to receive Holy Communion.

Anointing of the Sick

stthomasmorechurch.org/anointing-of-the-sick

Call the parish office to make arrangements to receive this sacrament.

RCIA (Becoming Catholic)

stthomasmorechurch.org/becoming-catholic

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a journey together in search of God.

SUPPORT Information

St. Vincent de Paul

stthomasmorechurch.org/st-vincent-de-paul-society

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

Bereavement Ministry

Trained volunteers are available to provide spiritual support and comfort to all parishioners mourning a death loss.

Life Matters

Any woman, who is pregnant and in need, should never feel alone and can find help at Corbella Clinic at **847.697.0200**, The Life Center at **847.622.1235**, or Project Rachel at **800.593.2273**.

BULLETIN Deadlines

March 20th Bulletin

Materials Due: **March 07, 2022**

March 27th Bulletin

Materials Due: **March 14, 2022**

Share your experiences and photos with us.

Flocknote | Facebook | Instagram | YouTube



Let's keep in touch!
Text "stmelgin"
to **84576** or visit
flocknote.com/stthomasmore37



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PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

This Lent, I will focus my homilies on critical themes essential to growing in the spiritual life. The title of this series is Pursuing Perfection: Adventures in Holiness. I will use my bulletin articles to highlight key points and give you questions to ponder during the week.

The first homily focuses on the universal call to holiness issued by Jesus and the Church. The call to holiness is the most critical call to answer today, not sometime in the future.

Key themes:

- Now is the time to begin to pursue holiness.
- This pursuit takes a lifetime. Do not be discouraged. Begin again daily.
- God alone satisfies the deepest desires of our hearts.
- Holiness means having our hearts transformed by love.
- We will not be satisfied with a shallow prayer life, says St. John Paul II.
- The great Saints of the Spiritual life will be our guide: St. John of the Cross, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Francis de Sales, and more.

- Four basic principles for the journey:
 - ⇒ Holiness is a gift from God, not something we earn but something we prepare ourselves to receive.
 - ⇒ At the same time, our effort is indispensable. It requires an intense spiritual commitment.
 - ⇒ There are purifications along the way that are difficult but necessary for healing. They are blessed encounters with God.
 - ⇒ The effort and purification are infinitely worth it.
- 1. Do I wake up each day and ask God's help to pursue holiness?
- 2. Have I made the commitments necessary to pursue holiness? Daily Prayer, Sunday Mass, and Frequent Confession. If not, can I spend some time ordering my life to this pursuit?
- 3. Do I believe that Jesus wants this for me? If not, ask Him to show you that He does.

In the Peace of Christ,
Fr. Browning

OUR LADY OF THE Annunciation

Queen of heaven and earth,
daughter of the Father,
Mother of the divine Son,
spouse of the Holy Spirit,
I praise God
for the unique grace given to you.
Mary, you became the great Mother
of our divine Savior,
our Master, true Light of the world,
uncreated Wisdom,
source of all Truth and first Apostle of Truth.
You gave the world
the book to read, the eternal Word.
For this I bless the holy Trinity
and I ask you to obtain for me
the grace of heavenly wisdom,
to be a fervent disciple of Jesus
and to be lovingly devoted to the Church,
the pillar of truth.
Make the light of the Gospel
shine to the farthest bounds of the earth.
Queen of the Apostles, pray for us!
Amen

Hope For Haitians

During Lent we will once again focus our almsgiving on supporting the work of Hope for Haitians. Based in the Rockford Diocese, this charity serves the poorest of the poor in Northeast Haiti. Your gifts this Lent will be joined with the gifts from other Catholic faithful in our diocese and be transformed into homes, clean water, and an opportunity for self-sufficiency for 50 families in Northeast Haiti.

There are boxes available for your donations in the Gathering Space. Please help this worthy cause that provides works of mercy to families in desperate need.

If you would like to find out more about this ministry, or donate online, scan the code with your phone, call **815.847.0656**, or visit hopeforhaitians.org/church-139/.

If you would like to join the Haiti committee at STM, please contact **Mary Ayd** 847.691.5119



PRAY WITH US

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

PRAYER List

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.

Lord Hear Our Prayer...

† All Souls in Purgatory
 † All affected by COVID-19
 † Sebastian Abbinanti
 † Ed Bartholomew
 † Ana Carrillo
 † Ryan Costelloe
 † John Derdzinski
 † Nick Disanza
 † Chuck Felski
 † Tim Felski
 † Joyce Garrett
 † Dianna Giordino

† Tony Gorzak
 † Emmanuel Gumapas
 † Shirley Kinsella
 † Beverly Kittler
 † Dennis Kittler
 † Magdalena Lara
 † Maureen M.
 † Fran Meek
 † Ute Meyer
 † Belinda Mockler
 † Gloria Neitzel
 † Juliana Neves

† Tim Nicholson
 † Joanne Nowak
 † Rick Oros
 † Chuck Pruter
 † Lutie Regan
 † Liza Roman
 † Manuel Roman
 † Conni Schultz
 † Diane Schumacher
 † Helen Stasukaitis
 † Imelda O. Veneracion
 † Heather Wydra

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

† Ruth Cullian

READINGS of the Day

<https://bible.usccb.org/>

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB's) mission is to encounter the mercy of Christ and to accompany His people with joy. Visit the link above for podcast audio, videos and daily prayers.

ADORERS Needed

Jesus is inviting you to sit with Him each week! Will you accept this weekly date? Choose a day/time below and sign-up by using by visiting <https://www.stthomasmorechurch.org/adoration>

Daytime Hours

- Wednesday 12:00PM
- Friday 12:00 PM

Overnight Hours

(you will receive a keycard to enter the Chapel)

- Monday 3:00 AM
- Wednesday 12:00 AM
- Wednesday 3:00 AM
- Thursday 3:00 AM

SPOTLIGHT

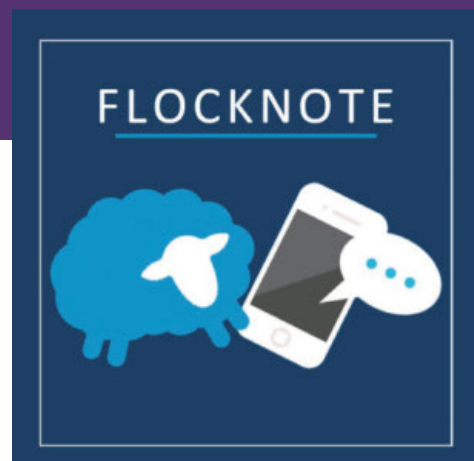
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FLOCKNOTE Prayers for LENT

SIGN-UP NOW

Dedicate yourself to the Lord this Lent. Sign-up for Flocknote to receive daily prayers from Fr. Browning during Lent. Over the 40 days of LENT, these prayers will help guide you learn to pray and form the habit of prayer.

To Join Flocknote, visit www.flocknote.com/stthomasmore37 or text STMELGIN to 84576.



HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin



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 Pathway to Union with God: The Spiritual Life
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Location: St. Thomas More in Elgin IL



Father Browning

REGISTRATION: ceorockford.org CALL US AT: **815-399-4300**

For more information contact us:

Lenten Weekend Retreats

Discerning Your Decision in the Ignatian Tradition
 March 3-6, 2022

Stage 2 Recovery: Living the Steps
 March 11-13, 2022


*Using the Steps to Thrive in our
 Post-Pandemic World*
 March 18-20, 2022

You Too Are Christ!
 March 25-27, 2022

*The Joy of Love: Praying with Pope
 Francis' Teaching on Marriage*
 April 1-3, 2022

You Will Do Greater Things Than These!
 (Palm Sunday)
 April 8-10, 2022

Living the Paschal Mystery
 April 14-16, 2022



BELLARMINE
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847-381-1261 | JesuitRetreat.org

Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed

St. Thomas More has a group of adult volunteers who help at a soup kitchen at **Zion Church in Elgin** on the **2nd or 4th Tuesdays** of each month from about **4:30-6:30pm**. We are in need of additional help.



If interested please contact **Sharon Hall** at shall@stthomasmorechurch.org to volunteer!

Catholic Charities - Diocese of Rockford

Seeking **licensed counselors**, (LCPC, LCSW) for our School and Community Counseling programs. Bring your skills to serve the needs of the whole person. Please contact **Richard Parsons** at **779.210.8698** or send resume and cover letter to rparsons@rockforddiocese.org

Marmion Entrance Exam

Marmion Academy will be offering a third and final entrance exam for the class of 2026 on Saturday, March 26. Any interested young men can sign up at www.marmion.org/admissions. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Bill Dickson at admissions@marmion.org

How to Tap into Your God-given Creativity

Amy J. Cattapan
 Author, Speaker, Educator

Saturday, March 5, 2022
 10 am to Noon

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 Those who think they are not creative but want to be!
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www.sjnstcharles.org

St. Patrick Parish Divorce Ministry

Navigating a broken marriage can be taxing on one's personal and spiritual life. In order to bring light to these tricky situations, we are hosting a program on the annulment process. We will be joined by Msgr. Glenn Nelson, a canon lawyer from the Diocese of Rockford, who will explain the process, dispel common myths and answer questions, all through the eyes of the Church.

On **Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 7:00PM** at St. Patrick Parish Crane Rd. Church (Fr. Dempsey Hall)
 6N491 Crane Road, St. Charles, IL

FOR INFO/REGISTER:

Sharee Clough – call 630.518.2739 sclough50@gmail.com
Lois Mielke – call 847.863.1268 loisamielke@gmail.com

MASS HIGHLIGHTS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

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, March 07

8:30 AM Mass

Ruth Roti (sp. Int.)

Tuesday, March 08

8:30 AM Mass

Mary Ann Fout

6:30 PM Mass

Dianna Giordino (sp. Int.)

Wednesday, March 09

8:30 AM Mass

Carol Koehler

9:30 AM Mass (School staff and students only)

Missy Craig

Thursday, March 10

8:30 AM Mass

Jesse Meek

6:30 PM Mass

Magdalena Lara (sp. Int.)

Friday, March 11

8:30 AM Mass

Rev. Andrew Plesa

Saturday, March 12

8:30 AM Mass

Gregoria Gutierrez

5:00 PM Mass

**Maynard & Ann Decker
Fred Taeyaerts**

Sunday, March 13

8:00 AM Mass

Helen Hartwell

10:00 AM Mass

Richard Hochstatter

12:00 PM Mass

People of STM

Jim Smith

Presiders

Saturday, March 12

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Sunday, March 13

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Ejay

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning


Adoration Candles Intentions

March 6 – March 12

Deacon Greg Stevens

March 13 – March 19

Manuel Roman (Sp. Int.)




Knights of Columbus

PRESENTING


Joe Jordan

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MARCH 10TH @ 6:30PM

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