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







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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

Visit our website above to fill out a form and a priest will contact you with more information.

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.

Becoming Catholic

stthomasmorechurch.org/becoming-catholic

If you are an adult who is interested in becoming Catholic we would like to help you.

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

May 28th Bulletin

Materials Due: May 15, 2023

June 4th Bulletin

Materials Due: May 19, 2023

Share your experiences and photos with us. Flocknote | Facebook | Instagram | YouTube









PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

Historical Fact II - Post-Mortem Appearances

In the previous article, we saw indisputable historical evidence for the empty tomb. The empty tomb, of course, does not prove the bodily Resurrection of Jesus, but it is an important fact.

The second historical fact is the appearances of Jesus after his death or his post-mortem appearances. We have multiple independent reports of these appearances, as with the empty tomb, which gives us confidence. We find the primary account in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15:

"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me (1 Cor 15:3–8)."

Scholars date this passage to within 5-10 years of the resurrection appearances (see the previous article for more information). Paul gives it even more credibility when he says, "Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive..." (1 Cor 15:6). Paul suggests that if you don't believe him, ask one of the five hundred who saw him risen because most of them are still alive. If the event had never occurred and there were no eyewitnesses, then Paul would not have challenged the people to speak with them. There were many still alive, and Paul issued the challenge to those who doubted.

Paul mentions the other appearances of Jesus to Peter and the disciples, which are also well-attested. We have multiple independent accounts of each encounter (see below for a list of appearances). Finally, Jesus appears to James and Paul, two people not inclined to think Jesus rose from the dead.

James was a relative of Jesus and deeply skeptical of Jesus. James is the cousin of Jesus, the son of Mary, the wife of Clopas, who was the Virgin Mary's close relative. We have good evidence from the gospels that during Jesus' lifetime, James was skeptical of Jesus and did not come to believe in him until after his death and Resurrection (see https://youtu.be/

<u>A-p38y9cjU</u> and <u>https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/jesus-of-nazareth/the-resurrection-of-jesus/)</u>.

Saul, who later became Paul, was an enemy of Christians and participated in their murder (1 Tim 1:13; Acts 7:58, 22:6-21; Gal 1:11-24). It is hard to believe that either James or Paul would sincerely claim that Jesus had appeared to them bodily unless it happened.

The post-mortem Resurrection appearances of Jesus is the second fact on which most scholars and historians agree. We are confident from a historical perspective that several people from various walks of life encountered the risen Jesus (bodily) after his death.

We gather these facts from multiple historically reliable accounts, but at this point, we have yet to attempt to explain the evidence. Right now, we are still collecting it. The following article will cover our third historical fact: Christianity's sudden and surprising birth.

In the joy of the Resurrection,

Fr. Browning

The resurrection appearances of Jesus Christ on the third day

- To Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:10-18 See also Mk 16:9-11)
- To the women at the tomb (Mt 28:1-10 pp Mk 16:1-8 pp Lk 24:1-12)
- To Peter (Lk 24:34; 1Co 15:5)
- To the two travelers to Emmaus (Mk 16:12-13; Lk 24:13-16,30-32)
- \bullet To the disciples in the upper room (Mk 16:14 pp Lk 24:36 pp Jn 20:19)

Further appearances of Jesus Christ

- To the disciples in the upper room (See also Jn 20:26; 1Co 15:5)
- Other appearances (Jn 21:1 See also Mt 28:16-17; 1Co 15:6-7)
- Jesus Christ appears at his ascension (Mk 16:19; Lk 24:50-51; Ac 1:9)

Women's Spring Tea 2023

Life is a Spiritual Bouquet - 10:00am - 3:00pm Doors open at 9am for music and fellowship!

Hosted by Women At The Well

Get together with your girlfriends and talk about how we can grow in grace and virtue! Includes Mass, lunch and even making a St. Monica Bracelet. Cost is \$35 per person. Space is limited. Register by May 15, 2023. Dempsey Hall, St Patrick Parish, 6N391 Crane Rd., St. Charles, IL 60175

Register online: https://forms.gle/nvT9peRP53mBQ3oi6

Email: watw.stp@gmail.com

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
- **†**Ed Bartholomew
- †Daria Bernardi
- †Mary Cantu
- †Ana Carrillo
- **†**Ed Clay
- **†**Helen Clemens
- † Juanita Cundiff
- **†**Larry Durrant
- †Patricia Egan †Dianna Giardino
- †Dominick Girardi
- †Linda Girardi
- †Maraliz Gonzalez

- †Angela Guasta
- **†**Lynn Harper
- †Anastacio Hernandez
- †Inez Hernandez
- †Magdalena Hernandez
- †Miguel A Hernandez
- **†**Karen Johnson
- **†**Charlie Joseph
- †Shirley Kinsella
- †Angela Loeding
- †Linda McEwan †Fran Meek
- †William Meek
- †Belinda Mockler

- **†**Gloria Neitzel
- †Elizabeth North
- **†**Barb Pruter
- †Linda Rakowski
- **†**Carmen Rodriguez
- **†Liza Roman**
- **†**Manuel Roman
- **†**Oscar Romero
- **†**Joyce Romke
- †Donald Sarau
- **†**Laurie Sarau
- **†**Richard Sutton
- **†**Gabriel Tomlinson
- **†**Louise Wolff

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

†All Souls

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.

GIVING at St. Thomas More

At St. Thomas More Church you are able to share your donations in a variety of ways.

- AT MASS: You can drop your weekly offering in one
 of the baskets at the back of church. We are currently
 not taking up a collection during the Mass.
- ONLINE: You can sign up to make your weekly offering online by visiting our website at Parish Giving; stthomasmorechurch.org/donate-1

If you have questions about donations to St. Thomas More, contact Olga Pomella at finance@stthomasmorechurch.org or 847.888.1682 x213



SPOTLIGHT

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

SUMMER Prayer Pets

JUNGLE EDITION

Summer Prayer Pets are back with a twist! Adopt a stuffed JUNGLE animal at our on-line rescue! Prayer pets are fuzzy friends that come in a kit with care instructions that cover 8 weeks of summer fun. Your pet will be a surprise! It could be a lion, tiger, zebra, giraffe, monkey or cheetah.

Link for adoption can be found on the Thursday parish Flocknote.

Pick up is May 27th & 28th after all Masses.



HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

ATTENTION ALL MEN! **Special Summer Session!**



Enter into the Mysteries of Christ and Rediscover the Power of the Rosary

A Summer Program for all This program is 7 sessions beginning on June 3rd and ending July 22nd, with July 1st off for the holiday. All sessions will be held on Saturdays from 6:45am to 8:15am in the Chelsea Room.



For more information or to register for the program, please contact **Bob Nierzwicki at 773.633-7449** or bobnierz@sbcglobal.net or visit stthomasmorechurch.org/that-man-isyou-1 or scan the QR code.

STM School

STM School is so proud to announce that it has four



state winners in the National Zaner Bloser Handwriting contest!

- Riley S. (2nd)
- Francine G. (5th)
- Brynn M. (6th)
- Alex R. (7th)

All are advancing to

the national competition representing their grade for IL. We are so proud of them!

Spred Mass

Please join us! St. Thomas More Spred Ministry will be holding our annual Spred Mass on Thursday, May 18,

2023 at 6pm.

The Spred Ministry provides religious education for children & adults with learning difficulties and developmental disabilities.



Happy Mother's Day!



Fr. Browning and his Mom Donna

During the season of Easter, what a great time to remember our mothers and ask for God's blessing on them. It is God who ultimately gave us life. It is through God's unselfish love--mirrored in our mothers' willingness to associate their love with God's and take the risk to love us into life--that we have the opportunity for life. We

remember our mothers this Mother's Day with much love.

Let us pray for each of them:

God our heavenly Father. you give to each the ability to share your generative love. Bless those women in our lives who mirror your love and bring forth life through their willingness to risk bringing new life into this world. Help us to show them our gratitude for the gift of life and the gift of a mother's love. May our life-giving God continue to bless them and show them his unfailing love.

We ask this through Jesus, God's Son and our brother. Amen.

Parishioner Information Update

In order to keep our parish database current, we ask that you keep us up-to-date of any name, address, phone number and /or email changes. Most importantly, please notify us if there is a change in family status (birth, marriage or death,) or baptisms or funerals at either another parish or out-of-state. Please call the parish office at **847.888.1682**.

A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY



KONTI LANG: "Orphans"

To be an orphan means to live alone without parents, provider, instructor and defender. It's like living a miserable life. This what worries Jesus' disciples because they aet Fr. Edil Jarapa Used to their Master always being on their

side taking care of them. But Jesus gives them an assurance; "I will not leave you orphans." For us Christians struggling in this life, it is a big relief knowing that God will not abandon us. It gives us great advantage to survive trials and difficulties, because we are not orphans but beloved children of God.

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, May 15

8:30 AM Mass

Socorro Rocha Espino Geraldine Smith

Tuesday, May 16

8:30 AM Mass

Dr. Marius Mokwe

Wednesday, May 17

8:30 AM Mass

Jose Andrada, Sr.

9:30 AM Mass

Marie Therese Henebry

Thursday, May 18

8:30 AM Mass

People of STM

Friday, May 19

8:30 AM Mass

John Derdzinski

Saturday, May 20

8:30 AM Mass

Bill McGough

5:00 PM Mass

Fred Taeyaerts

Sunday, May 21

8:00 AM Mass

Christine Baczek

Ronald B. Rakowski

10:00 AM Mass

Constance M. Schultz

12:00 PM Mass

People of STM

Presiders

Saturday, May 20

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Sunday, May 21

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Adoration Candles Intentions

May 14 - May 20

Jeffrey W. Kazale

May 21 - May 27

The Rafael, Sarangaya and Olanda Families, Maria Regina Suarez, Mr. & Mrs. Eladio Chatto



Stay connected with your faith when you are on vacation or traveling. Share with St. Thomas More, a picture of you and/or your family at Mass! Send your picture to **ayoung@stthomasmorechurch.org** with a simple description and your location, and it will be shared in our Sunday bulletin and our social media!



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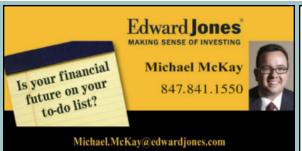


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