

MAY 28, 2023

PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

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

June 11th Bulletin

Materials Due: **May 29, 2023**

June 18th Bulletin

Materials Due: **June 05, 2023**

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



Like our Facebook
page to stay connected
to our community!
[facebook.com/St Thomas
More Catholic Church](https://facebook.com/StThomasMoreCatholicChurch)



Follow **@stmcelgin**
on Instagram. Share
your faith...through pic-
tures by hashtag
#stmcelginthegram



Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel
youtube.com
Search for **St Thomas
More Church**

PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST EXPLANATION OF THE FACTS

In the previous articles, we looked at the three historical facts about Jesus that virtually all historical scholars agree on: the empty tomb, the post-mortem appearances, and the origin of Christianity. The facts are neutral and do not explain themselves, so we must know which theory best describes them. Believers and unbelievers have proposed several theories to explain the facts, and we will look at these in the following article.

This article will first explore how historians generally decide between alternative theories. In other words, how do we determine which approach is best?

Generally, historians lean on five criteria to assess the different theories and determine the best one. These will allow us to show skeptics that we have taken the facts and applied these criteria to the possible hypotheses to determine what makes the most sense of the evidence.

The first criterion is the **explanatory scope**—the best theory should explain most or all of the facts. For example, if Explanation A explains two of the facts, and Explanation B explains all three, then by this criterion, Explanation B would be the better option.

The second criterion is **explanatory power**—the best explanation should forcefully explain the facts and not in a weak or cursory way. In other words, a good description should make you think, "Yes, that's it!" and not, "Well, I guess I can see how that might explain the facts." That is the difference between explanatory power and weakness.

The third criterion is **plausibility**—the best explanation should be plausible, given the existing background information. It should make sense and not seem far-fetched and unlikely. For instance, I am standing in the backyard hitting golf balls, and Fr. Ejay notices a golf-ball sized hole in his bedroom window. It would be plausible for him to believe I had hit an errant shot through his window. It is not plausible that someone in Batavia hit a ball from their backyard through his window. Both explain the golf-ball-sized hole in the window, but the Batavia theory is not plausible. But if he asks, it came from Batavia.

The fourth criterion is how **contrived** the explanation is. The best explanation should only require us to adopt a few or no new beliefs for which we have no evidence. Suppose we were trying to explain how

the pyramids were built. Numerous theories; some suggest they were constructed using an innovative system of ramps, levers, and pulleys. Others suggest aliens made them. The alien explanation is an example of a contrived reason. It requires us to accept new unfounded beliefs for which we have no evidence (aliens) and is, therefore, a contrived explanation and less likely correct.

The fifth and final criterion is **coherence with accepted beliefs**. The best explanation will conflict with fewer accepted beliefs than other explanations. We have many accepted ideas, from the law of physics to the facts of history. The best explanation usually aligns with these. If, for instance, a theory forces us to overturn the law of gravity or George Washington was the first President of the United States, it is a strike against that theory.

The best explanation on these criteria is usually the one that explains the full scope of facts, has greater explanatory power, is most plausible, is not contrived, and is in line with accepted beliefs.

An important caveat is that sometimes the best explanations do not fair well on every criterion: for example, some revolutionary scientific theories like Einstein's general theory of relativity. When he proposed it, the theory did not meet the last criterion of coherence of accepted beliefs. However, it did so well on the other four criteria that it was impossible to dismiss.

In the following article, we will take the three historical facts of the empty tomb, the post-mortem appearances, and the origin of Christianity and the five most common explanations given for those facts (conspiracy theory, apparent death theory, displaced body theory, hallucination theory, and the Resurrection theory) and using these criteria determine the best one.

In the truth of the Resurrection,
Fr. Browning

Resources:

Bradon Vogt, www.claritasu.com, episodes on the Resurrection.

Parish Office Closed

The Parish office will be **closed** this **Monday, May 29th** in observance of Memorial Day. The office will re-open on Tuesday, May 30th at 9AM.
Have a safe and happy Memorial Day Weekend!

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
 † Daria Bernardi
 † Ana Carrillo
 † Helen Clemens
 † Roger Dombrowski
 † 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
 † James Lublow
 † Linda McEwan
 † Belinda Mockler
 † Gloria Neitzel
 † Barb Pruter
 † Linda Rakowski
 † Carmen Rodriguez

† Liza Roman
 † Manuel Roman
 † Maria Roman
 † Oscar Romero
 † Joyce Romke
 † Donald Sarau
 † Laurie Sarau
 † Richard Sutton
 † Patricia Tanner
 † Gabriel Tomlinson
 † Amani Urban
 † Louise Wolff

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

† William Krueger

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

THANK YOU to all who serve and protect

• **Alex Arciuch**
Tech. Sgt., USAF
 • **Nathan Brammer**
USAF
 • **Miguel Carrillo**
US Army
 • **Robert Castellvi**
Brig. Gen., Airborne

• **Nickolas Gulik**
Army National Guard
 • **William J. Guth**
Master Sgt., USMC
 • **Benjamin Harrington**
US Navy
 • **Douglas R. Johnson**
Technical Sergeant, USAF

• **Nick Lange Sr**
Lt. Col., Airborne
 • **Alexander Litgen**
Airman, US Army
82nd Airborne
 • **David McCallister**
Sgt. 1st Class, US Army
 • **Bryan P. Malm**
SSG, USAF

• **Steve Olson**
Staff Sgt., USAF
 • **Tucker A. Parkhouse**
Pvt., USMC
 • **Ryan Jacob Pechay**
Sgt., USMC
 • **Patrick Puckett**
2nd Lt., National Guard

• **Sean Sabate**
USN
 • **Jonathan M Suire**
Capt.; Army National Guard
 • **Daniel T. Winters**
1st Lt., USMC

HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

New Summer Hours

On Friday's, beginning **May 26** through and including Friday, August 11, the parish office will be open from **9:00am until 1:00pm** during these 12 Friday's in the summer.

2023 Eucharistic Procession

Sunday, June 11th, on the Feast of Corpus Christi, St. Thomas More Parish will celebrate our annual **Eucharistic Procession**. In a Eucharistic procession Fr. Browning carries the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance around the perimeter of the St. Thomas More Campus and all are invited to walk in procession behind him in faith, and witness, of our belief of the true presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. All parishioners should gather in the **church parking lot** at **12:45pm** and join the procession. The procession will end inside the church with Adoration and prayers of benediction.

All children who have received their 1st Communion this year are invited to be a part of the procession dressed in their 1st communion outfits.

Memorial Day Mass

Memorial Day Mass at Mount Hope Cemetery is **May 29, 2023 at 9:00am**. Weather Permitting. Please bring your own lawn chairs. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the cemetery office at **847.468.6910**.

Memorial Day

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Christians are no strangers to sacrifice. Jesus lays down his life for our redemption, martyrs remain faithful to the end, and every believer faces "deaths" in the spiritual life when love requires a re-ordering of preference and priority.

On Memorial Day, we honor those who laid down their lives for their nation and for the values we espouse

- freedom, justice, and a better world for our children. In a day that often fills with barbeques and boat launches, remember to take some time in prayer! Intercede for those who have died and for the loved ones they left behind, and pray for peace on earth.



Wednesdays
6:00 - 8:00PM
June 14, 28 July 12, 26

FAITH & SPIRITS
WITH SEMINARIAN MIKE

Discussion Topics:
 ■ Who needs faith?
 ■ What is life like without faith?
 ■ How can we trust the Bible?
 ■ How does living a Catholic life increase happiness and longevity?

CONVERSATION ABOUT FAITH WITH SEMINARIAN MIKE WOJNAROWSKI
 A casual evening of snacks and conversation about faith.
 A series for adults 21 and older.
 \$10 person \$15 couple
 Register online at stthomasmorechurch.org/faith-and-spirits

A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY

KONTI LANG: "Breathing On"



Fr. Edil Jarapa

During Pentecost, the disciples received the Holy Spirit, having new life and the ability to carry out their mission. John, the evangelist, insinuated a deliberate connection between this breathing on the disciples and when at creation God breathed life into man. It signaled a new beginning and life. The disciples were born again, radiating the aura of God. Luckily, we too had received the breath of God in baptism, and we became His children. Along our journey, sometimes we get tired physically, emotionally, and spiritually. When we experience this, there is no way but to come closer to the source of life. God will breathe on us and give us new life

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 29

8:30 AM Mass

Marge Banker

John Jacob Kaleba

Tuesday, May 30

8:30 AM Mass

Marilyn Schlaefel

Wednesday, May 31

8:30 AM Mass

Swaminathan Prakash Babu Joseph

9:30 AM Mass

All STM Students & Staff

Thursday, June 01

8:30 AM Mass

Mary Lesniak

Friday, June 02

8:30 AM Mass

All Souls

Saturday, June 03

8:30 AM Mass

June Frye Uteg

5:00 PM Mass

Fred Taeyaerts

Sunday, June 04

8:00 AM Mass

People of STM

10:00 AM Mass

John Derdzinski

12:00 PM Mass

Jeanette Argianas

Presiders

Saturday, June 03

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

Sunday, June 04

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

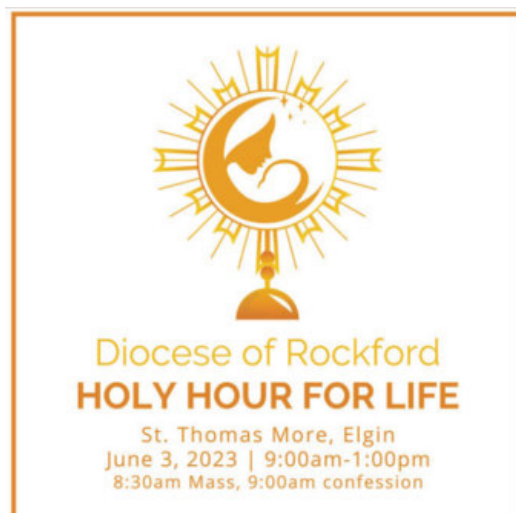
Adoration Candles Intentions

May 28 - June 03

Hermينو A. Veneracion

June 04 - June 10

Nicholas Webber





1570 Larkin Ave • Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 695-2235

SUBURBAN WATER CONDITIONERS, INC.

- WATER TREATMENT EQUIPMENT
 - SALES - RENTALS - SERVICE
 - REVERSE OSMOSIS (R.O.)
- (THE BOTTLED WATER ALTERNATIVE)

BOB MEEK, Parishioner

Bus (847) 741-4037
Home (847) 697-5889



Quick Commercial Printing

909 DAVIS ROAD ELGIN • ILLINOIS 60123

847.697.1434
FAX 847.697.1469



Michael P. Ellsworth, CFP

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER

- Parishioner since 1997 -

FINANCIAL PLANNING AND WEALTH MANAGEMENT
(847) 531-8693

36 N. McLean Blvd., Elgin
www.ameripriseadvisors.com/michael.p.ellsworth



Your local technology and business partner since 1979. Providing computing and network solutions to business and education.

630-584-9505
www.mcctech.com



ST. CHARLES, IL

WHEN IT'S
TIME TO PAINT...
IT'S PRIME TIME!

• FREE ESTIMATE •

• RESIDENTIAL PAINTING • COMMERCIAL PAINTING

• INTERIOR PAINTING • EXTERIOR PAINTING

WWW.PRIMETIMEPAINTINGINC.COM

CALL TODAY AND SAVE! 630-920-3300

Firewood • Tree & Stump Removal



"Fully Insured & Free Estimates."

847-683-7252

**Lester H. Holze, Jr., D.C.,
Christopher M. Holze, D.C.**



Holistic, Natural
Health Care
for the entire family

(847) 888-4770

2000 Larkin Ave., Ste. 200, Elgin



PLUMBING

Service • Remodeling
New Construction

847-683-5050
www.BestlerCorp.com

catholicmatch®
Illinois
CatholicMatch.com/IL



\$3.99 MEAL DEAL

- 1 Bowl of Soup OR Chili,
- 1 Sm Drink & choice of
- 1 Bagel from 11am-11pm

Elgin 847-488-1900

With this coupon.

One coupon per visit.

Not valid with any other offer.

Expires 12/31/2023



3091 U.S. Rt. 20

Elgin

(1 mile west of Randall Rd.)

847-488-1900

Open 24/7

\$2.00 OFF 1 Dozen Donuts

No Limit

Elgin 847-488-1900

With this coupon.

One coupon per visit.

Not valid with any other offer.

Expires 12/31/2023



20% OFF
purchase of eyeglasses

*Some conditions apply

St. Charles Elgin
630-584-9850 847-695-0499
Foxvalleyeyes.com

**DARMON
ORTHODONTICS, P.C.**
L.M. Darmon, DDS, MS
Parish Member

2001 Larkin Ave
Suite 207
(847) 741-1165

For professional real estate service
& results, call Brian or visit me on the
internet at brian1@remax.com



Brian Knott
RE/MAX Horizon
847-269-9870
Email: brian1@remax.net

DOORMASTER Garage Door Co., LLC.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

FIRE DOORS • HOLLOW METAL DOORS
DOCK EQUIPMENT • RESIDENTIAL DOORS

Serving the IL Area for over 30 Years

Steve Getzin, Owner
(847) 683-0333

"WE TREAT YOUR DOOR LIKE OUR OWN."



Your Complete Tree and Shrub Care Company

crowntreecare@gmail.com
ISA and IAA Member

Office: 847-888-9916 • Cell: 224-645-9251

Fax: 847-841-7041

Help at Home for Seniors

Connecting Catholics
at St Thomas More
and serving surrounding
parish communities.



In-home caregiving
with values
and Catholic beliefs
shared by you.



By Catholics
For Catholics

Need assistance to live comfortably and
independently at home?

Are you interested in becoming a caregiver?

www.Catholic-Care.com 1-800-811-2210



2020 N Randall Rd, Elgin, IL 60123

(847) 695-8000

McGrathHondaElgin.com



As your local premier Illinois Honda dealer,
we have a huge selection of new and pre owned vehicles.
We are here for all your sales and service needs!



For ad info. call at 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Thomas More, Elgin, IL

B 4C 01-0554

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Is your financial future on your to-do list?

Michael McKay
847.841.1550

Michael.McKay@edwardjones.com

Alexander Plumbing

214 E. Chicago St.
Elgin, IL 60120

Plumbing • Sewers
Remodeling

CALL TODAY!
847-742-0541

Parishioner

WILLIAM J. HOLEVAS D.D.S., LTD.
Life Changing Dentistry

847-742-4214
www.dentalpassions.com


IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ You Need
At HOME and AWAY!

As Low As **\$19⁹⁵** /mo.

- ✓ Ambulance/Police
- ✓ Family/Friends
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! 800.808.9294
md-medalert.com

The UPS Store 

847 South Randall Road Elgin
Proud Parishioner

We Do More Than Shipping

Booklets, Banners
Posters, Freight
Notary, Mailbox
Flyers, Shredding

Ph: 847.717.3249
www.ElginUPSstore.com

Help Wanted

FIL-AM Pinoy Food Express

Looking for
Cook - Cashier - Helper

773-701-3549

75 Market St. Elgin, IL 60213
2 minutes from St Thomas More & St Joseph Hospital



*Serving Breakfast & Lunch
7 Days a Week*

(847) 628-6256
www.randallspancakes.com
305 Randall Rd • South Elgin

JIMMY'S CHARHOUSE

ELGIN

847-783-0200
www.jimmyscharhouseelgin.com
2290 Point Blvd. • Elgin



McLean AUTO REPAIR

Complete Automotive Maintenance

(847) 741-9576
www.mcleanautorepair.com

Patrick ELECTRICAL SERVICE

224-535-0122

COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL • RESIDENTIAL



SKC CONSTRUCTION INC.

Pavement Maintenance & Preservation Solutions

Crack Sealing • Sealcoating
Pothole Repair • Striping

Kevin A. Bergquist - Project Manager
Cell: 224-659-3927
Phone: 847-214-9800
kbergquist@skcconstruction.net
P.O. Box 503 • West Dundee, Illinois 60118

KUSTOM HEATING & COOLING


- SINCE 2000 -

Trained. Reliable. Trustworthy.

- SERVICE • MAINTENANCE
- INSTALLATION

Servicing All Makes and Models

(847) 496-3008



LARK & OWL EATERY

Serving Breakfast and Lunch

MONDAY:
Closed

TUESDAY-SUNDAY:
7am-2pm

219 Walnut Ave. • Elgin



COVENANT WATERPROOFING

Specializing in Basements:

- *Foundation Wall Cracks
- *Epoxy Injection
- *Wallclay Method
- *Drain Tile Systems

(847) 754-9355

BERNA MOVING AND STORAGE

847-741-0264
Local & Long Distance

Thomas Berna parishioner

Laird Funeral Home P.C.

310 S. State St. 120 S. Third St.
Elgin, Ill 60123 West Dundee, Ill 60118

847-741-8800 847-836-8770

Donald Laird Stephen Laird Robert Laird Patricia Laird

Corey Short

"Family owned and operated"

Wait Ross Allanson

Funeral Home and Cremation Services

51 Center St. 201 S. Main St.
Elgin, Ill 60120 Algonquin, Ill 60102

847-742-2100 847-658-4232



- RESIDENTIAL • MULTI-TENANT
- COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
- SERVICE • REMODELING
- NEW INSTALLATIONS

Located in Elgin
(847) 468-8171



Fox Valley Shooting Range

780 S. McLean Blvd, Elgin
Foxvalleysr.com
630-357-3570



FARMERS INSURANCE

Insuring your Home, Auto, Business & Life
Call for a FREE Quote!

 **David Dewitt**
(847) 622-6848
1831 Larkin Avenue • Elgin