

AUGUST 27, 2023

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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

September 10th Bulletin - Accelerated Holiday Deadline

Materials Due: **August 24, 2023**

September 17th Bulletin

Materials Due: **September 04, 2023**

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PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

I want to continue our reflections on the Mass and the Holy Eucharist to help us be better prepared to receive the grace and transformation God offers us through them. We will reflect on what it means to be in a state of grace and why it is required to receive Holy Communion in a state of grace.

Being in a state of grace is a fundamental requirement for receiving Holy Communion in the Catholic faith (see 1 Corinthians 10:16-21 and 1 Corinthians 11:27-30). This concept underscores the profound significance of spiritual purity and alignment with the teachings of Christ when participating in the sacrament. Holy Communion is not merely a symbolic ritual but a sacred encounter with the divine, wherein Jesus and the Church teach that we partake in the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ (see John 6).

To receive the Eucharist in a state of grace means to be free from mortal sin – sins that sever one's relationship with God. Confession and penance before receiving the sacrament allow Catholics to cleanse their souls and restore their connection with the divine, ensuring a worthy reception. This practice highlights the importance of personal responsibility,

self-awareness, and acknowledging one's imperfections, fostering a more profound commitment to leading a virtuous life.

Receiving Holy Communion in a state of grace nurtures an individual's spiritual growth and reinforces the unity of the Church. It demonstrates humility, faith, and reverence, affirming our dedication to Christ's teachings. This practice also echoes Jesus' call for repentance and transformation, reminding us of our journey toward holiness.

In essence, the emphasis on being in a state of grace before receiving Holy Communion encapsulates the core teachings of the Catholic faith: a striving for purity, an unwavering commitment to Christ, and a recognition of the transformative power of the Eucharist. It serves as a poignant reminder that partaking in this sacrament is not merely a ritual but a profoundly spiritual act that demands a heart prepared to receive the divine presence.

In the power of God's sacramental graces, Fr. Browning

Reconciliation Times

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

Thank You!

The Northern Illinois Food Bank would like to give a big thank you to all who have donated.



A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY

KONTI LANG: "Keys"



Fr. Edil Jarapa

The key given to Peter entails authority. No doubt he became the leader of the apostles and the head of the church. The Pope, being the successor of Peter, also holds the spiritual authority here on earth. In the recent world youth day held in Portugal, the Pope Francis attracted millions of people and wherever he goes, he would always draw big crowd. He remains the most influential leader in the world because he speaks with authority in terms of morality and spirituality. We, Catholics, show reverence and obedience to the Pope because the key has been entrusted to him by God.

Fall Book Study

7 SECRETS OF THE EUCHARIST

Pope John Paul II referred to the Holy Eucharist as "the greatest treasure of the Church," and yet even



many devoted Catholics have a very limited understanding of this powerful sacrament. This study, using Vinny Flynn's book, 7 Secrets of the Eucharist, will help us come away with a completely new awareness that the Eucharist is not just about receiving Communion; it's about transforming your daily life.

Mondays, September 11 - October 30

9:00 - 10:00am in person

6:30 - 7:30pm via Zoom

Tuesdays, September 12 - October 31

6:00 - 7:00pm in person

Registration fee \$10 for materials payable at first class.

To register, **scan the QR code** or visit stthomasmorechurch.org/7-secrets-of-the-eucharist



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
 † Michael Abbs
 † Eunice Bai
 † Ed Bartholomew
 † Mary Beckman
 † Ed Clay
 † Arlo Dilly
 † Roger Dombrowski
 † Mary Fusek
 † Dianna Giardino
 † Lynn Harper
 † Alinda Hornck
 † Irma Hrycyk
 † Daniel Johnson

† Charlie Joseph
 † Mary Joseph
 † Bill Kerwin
 † Shirley Kinsella
 † Charlene LaCasse
 † Angela Loeding
 † James Lublow
 † Joan Maryanski
 † Fran Meek
 † William Meek
 † Edward Menchaca
 † Belinda Mockler
 † Gloria Neitzel
 † Elizabeth North

† Charlie Pitt
 † Linda Rakowski
 † Maria Roman
 † Joyce Romke
 † Melanie Sipe
 † Richard Sutton
 † Judy Taeyaerts
 † Patricia Tanner
 † Luca Tendy
 † Gabriel Tomlinson
 † Amani Urban
 † Louise Wolff

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

† John Becklinger † Ellie Kuntz
 † Michael Keating

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

BAPTISMS at STM

We welcome these children to God's family.



Isabelle Rosie Conroy

Her parents Adam and Jenni and Godparents Sarah and Patrick.



Dresden John Aphaivong

His parents John and Candice and sister Madeline.

HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

Journeying Deeper in Faith: Discovering Catholicism

Are you curious about the Catholic faith or looking to strengthen your connection with God and His Church? Join us weekly for an inspiring and educational class designed for newcomers and those seeking to deepen their Catholic faith journey.

When

Every Sunday beginning September 10 at 11:00 am

Where

Westminster Room

In these engaging sessions, we'll explore the core beliefs of Catholicism, dive into the beauty of Scripture and Tradition, and discuss how to apply our faith to our everyday lives. Whether you're considering becoming Catholic or wish to grow closer to God, this class is open to all seeking spiritual enrichment and community.

Each week, we'll embark on a new topic, guided by experienced facilitators (Deacon Deitz and his wife Michelle) passionate about sharing the richness of

Catholic teachings. Together, we'll build friendships, deepen our understanding of God's love, and strengthen our bonds as a faith community.

No matter where

you are on your spiritual journey, you're welcome here. Come with your questions, curiosity, and desire to know God and His Church more intimately.

For more information and to register, please contact **Deacon Deitz** at davidrdeitz@hotmail.com or join us at our **first class on September 10th after the 10:00 am Mass** in the Westminster Room. Let's journey together in faith and discover the beauty of being Catholic!

Blessings and peace to you on this sacred journey,
Fr. Browning



Job Opportunity

St. Gall Church in Elburn, Illinois is seeking a **full-time Director of Youth Ministry** to lead the formation and evangelization of teens in grades 7 through 12, providing opportunities for them to strengthen their relationships with each other, their families, the Catholic Church, and especially Jesus Christ. The Director will prepare our 7th and 8th graders for Confirmation, as well as plan and run other youth ministry events, such as retreats, bible studies, service opportunities, and social gatherings.

All applicants should be practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church, and committed to continued personal, spiritual, and professional growth. Formal theological training a plus, but not required.

Send resume and cover letter to **Fr. Max Striedl, Pastor**, via frmax@stgall.com, or the parish mailing address

K of C Tootsie Roll Drive/Football Mania

The Knights of Columbus will be in the Gathering Space **next weekend** (9/2 & 3) for their annual Tootsie Roll Drive, as well as selling Football Mania Cards for \$20 each.

The proceeds benefit local agencies that help the intellectually disabled. Please be generous, enjoy the candy, and most importantly, help someone in need.

Homeschooling Community

Are you a homeschooling family looking for educational enrichment, support, fun, and fellowship? Veritas Christi Inc. is a homeschool cooperative that meets once a week at Saint Mary in Huntley, IL. Feel free to fill out an application on our website: <https://www.homeschool-life.com/il/veritascatholic/>

If you have any questions please email:

veritascatholiccooperative@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you soon! May God Bless you and keep you!"

Job Opportunity

Corbella Clinic, a life-affirming pregnancy medical clinic in South Elgin, seeks a dynamic individual to fill



the position of **Director of Business Operations** (M-F, 30 hrs/wk). This position manages the organization's business functions including

financial management, facilities, technology and volunteer coordination. Please see the job description at <https://www.catholicjobs.com/state/il> or call **847.697.0200**.

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, August 28

8:30 AM Mass

Frank Iori

Tuesday, August 29

8:30 AM Mass

Helen Hostman

Steven Thomas Watwood

Wednesday, August 30

8:30 AM Mass

Joseph Martin Manzella

9:30 AM Mass

Rita Lutzow

Thursday, August 31

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Salvatore J. Guagliardo

Friday, September 01

8:30 AM Mass

All Souls

Saturday, September 02

8:30 AM Mass

Rita Calma

5:00 PM Mass

People of STM

Sunday, September 03

8:00 AM Mass

Julie Mueller (sp. Int.)

10:00 AM Mass

Mark Browning & Family (sp. Int.)

12:00 PM Mass

Gene Nottolini and deceased members of the McKeown and Nottolini Families

Presiders

Saturday, September 02

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

Sunday, September 03

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Ejay

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Adoration Candles Intentions

August 27 – September 02

Linda Rakowski (Sp. Int.)

September 03 – September 09

Jose Vallesterol, Genita Vallesterol (Sp. Int.)

Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary
Spiritual Ministry Programs
September 2023

Poetry of Presence Workshop
WHEN: Saturday, September 9, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, September 16, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, October 7, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
WHERE: Online via our ZOOM online platform

Finding Miracles in Our Everyday Life
WHEN: Thursday, September 14, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
WHERE: One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center,
Kankakee, IL

19th Annotation of the Ignatian Retreat
Kickoff: Tuesday, September 19, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
WHERE: Online via our ZOOM online platform L

What is the Significance of the Psalms in Christian Prayer?
WHEN: Wednesday, September 20, 9:00 am-10:30 am
WHERE: Nazareth Spirituality Center, Batavia, IL

2023 Silent Retreat
WHEN: Friday, September 24, 7:00 pm - Sunday,
September 26, 1:00 pm
WHERE: Nazareth Spirituality Center, Batavia, IL

For more information and to register,
visit our website at:
www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html
or contact Susan Amann: samann@sscm-usa.org



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