

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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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

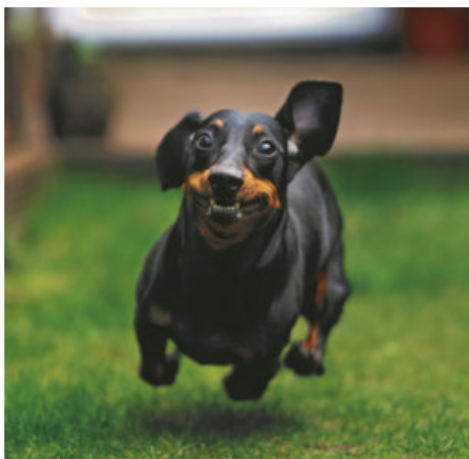
Deacons

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

Sacraments

stthomasmorechurch.org
/liturgy-sacraments

847.888.1682

PARISH GREETINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

Q. & A. with Fr. Browning

Q: Who is eligible to receive the Eucharist or Holy Communion?

A: Those who wish to receive the Eucharist should first be in a state of grace – a spiritual state of purity. If one knowingly commits a grave sin, receiving the sacrament of Confession before partaking in the Eucharist is required. One should refrain from receiving the Eucharist with unconfessed mortal sin because it will compound the sin (see 1 Corinthians 11:27-30).

Q: How can one receive the Eucharist – on the tongue or in the hand?

A: The traditional practice is to receive the Eucharist on the tongue, but the Holy See has also granted permission for receiving in the hand.

Q: What is the most essential aspect of receiving the Eucharist?

A: It's essential to approach the Eucharist with a deep awareness of the Real presence of Christ and a profound reverence for this divine gift. The Eucharist is the Jesus. So, this gift needs to be received with as much attention and commitment to Christ. We should be worthy vessels prepared to receive God's greatest gift – the Eucharist.

Q: Who should refrain from receiving the Eucharist?

A: Those who are not yet baptized or are below the age of 7, individuals conscious of unconfessed mortal sin, and those whose marriage hasn't been validated within the Church should seek spiritual guidance and the necessary sacraments before receiving the Eucharist. Reach out to one of our priests. We are happy to help.

Q: What if I haven't had the chance to go to Confession before Communion?

A: If you could not get to Confession before Mass, remaining seated during Communion is more authentic than receiving the Eucharist with grave sin. While attending Mass is obligatory, receiving the Eucharist is required only once a year.

Q: Is there a way to spiritually connect when unable to receive the Eucharist?

A: Absolutely. You can practice Spiritual Communion – a way to express your longing for Christ's presence when physical reception isn't possible.

Spiritual Communion Prayer: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Remember, these guidelines are rooted in the rich traditions of the Church and are meant to enhance your spiritual journey and connection with God.

BULLETIN Deadlines

October 8th Bulletin

Materials Due: **September 25, 2023**

October 15th Bulletin

Materials Due: **October 02, 2023**

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PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

We will continue our journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church and its teaching on the Eucharist, paragraphs 1328-1332. The Church speaks of the Holy Eucharist using different terms, and each one evokes a particular aspect of the Eucharist. These additional terms give us a 360-degree view of the great mystery of the Eucharist.

The first term the Church uses is the Eucharist. It comes from the Greek term, which means thanksgiving. The Eucharist is an action of thanksgiving of Jesus to the Father on our behalf, and He invites us to enter into this thanksgiving (see CCC 1328).

In paragraph 1329, it is called the Lord's Supper. Jesus instituted the pattern of this sacrifice in the context of the Jewish Passover on the night before he offered the sacrifice on the Cross. The Last Supper anticipates the wedding feast of the Lamb in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 19:9).

The Breaking of the Bread is an ancient name for the Mass and Eucharist. Jesus, in the miracles of the loaves and fish and at the Last Supper - takes, blesses, **breaks**, and gives. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) only recognize Him after the Resurrection in the **breaking of the bread**. The early Christians used this term to describe the Mass, pointing to how God brings us

into communion (common union) with Him and one another. This union is seen in another term used, the Eucharistic assembly, because it is the visible expression of the Church gathered with our Lord.

In paragraph 1330, the Church reminds us that Mass is a **memorial** of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection. Jesus said do this in remembrance of me. Another term used by the Church is the Holy Sacrifice. The Mass re-presents or makes present to us the one sacrifice of the Cross. It is the perfect sacrifice offered once in time but continually in eternity for the salvation of the world. We are brought real and spiritually to the foot of the Cross at each Mass. We must unite ourselves with this sacrifice, bringing our sacrifices to His.

We may also hear the term the Sacred Mysteries, and we speak of the Eucharist as the Most Blessed Sacrament as it is the Sacrament of sacraments.

The final two that round out our 360-view are familiar - Holy Communion and Holy Mass. Holy meaning set apart. Holy Mass is where we can leave the world behind and be with God. Our silence when we come into Church prepares us to leave the world and let God be our focus and let us better hear His voice. Holy Communion unites us to God through the reception of His body, blood, soul, and divinity. The adjective Holy reminds us of our need to prepare to receive this gift in the state of grace, having confessed any mortal sins sacramentally beforehand.

The terms used for the Eucharist and Holy Mass throughout the life of the Church can instruct us on the different aspects of this eternal gift of God. We can meditate on each name and it will guide us into a deeper appreciation for the Sacred Mysteries that leads us to Heaven.

Peace in the Lord,
Fr. Browning

A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY

KONTI LANG: "A Denarius"



Fr. Edil Jarapa

A denarius is equivalent to a daily wage equally received by all workers in the vineyard. The early workers complained about the seemingly unfair treatment by the landowner. But he did not violate any law or their own agreement. He was just exercising his right to be generous. If he was going to be strict on the number of hours of work, the late comers would only receive few penny that could not feed a whole family for a day. The landowner had just been so considerate of their basic needs and welfare. God rewards and blesses us according to His will and pleasure, not necessarily according to what we deserve. God follows the system of grace and not law. Thus, we are always going to notice that in terms of blessings in this world, we will never be equal. The key to happiness is to be appreciative of what is on our hands.

Neighborhood Rosary Walkers

The Rosary is a powerful prayer! During the month of October, we are asking our parishioners to walk in their neighborhood praying a Rosary for ALL the people who live on your street who are in need of prayer. Your intercessions to Mary for your neighbors WILL make a difference. You can do this alone, as a family, even while walking the dog!

To view the map and sign-up, visit our Gathering Space or scan the QR code in October to choose a street to let us know where you will be praying.

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

† Mary Fusek

† Dianna Giardino

† Lynn Harper

† Alinda Hornck

† Irma Hrycyk

† Charlie Joseph

† Mary Joseph

† Bill Kerwin

† Shirley Kinsella

† James Lublow

† Joan Maryanski

† Fran Meek

† William Meek

† Edward Menchaca

† Belinda Mockler

† Gloria Neitzel

† Linda Rakowski

† Manuel Roman

† Maria Roman

† Melanie Sipe

† Richard Sutton

† Gabriel Tomlinson

† Louise Wolff

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

† All Souls

READINGS of the Day

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

Podcast audio, videos and daily prayers.

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**.

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.



Henry Kai Venida
His parents Jorge and Maureen



Leonardo Thomas Martinez
His parents Brenda and Sebastian
Godparent Ellen Hall

HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

St. Thomas More School

"No Cook Night"

at



456 Redington Dr.
South Elgin, IL. 60177

On Wednesday, September 27th, 2023

All day

Dine in or Carry out

Just mention St. Thomas More School and 10% of the sales go to our wonderful school.



Thank You!

These organizations would like to give a big thank you to all who have donated.

See full letters posted on our church bulletin board.



YIPPEE!

It's time for Pet Blessings at St. Thomas More!



OCTOBER 1 ■ 1:00PM

BRING YOUR PETS TO THE ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH
PARKING LOT AFTER THE 12 NOON SUNDAY MASS.

Respect Life Sunday

Sunday, October 1 is Respect Life Sunday. We will join together on Highland Ave at Thomas More Dr. from **1:00 -2:00pm** to pray and witness to the sanctity and dignity of life. Signs will be provided. Bring strollers, blankets, and chairs. Our neighbors at First Baptist Church on Highland Ave will also be joining us.

September 27 - November 5
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

HELP SAVE LIVES IN AURORA

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over **20,000** babies saved from abortion
- Over **200** abortion workers converted
- Over **100** abortion centers closed

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil location: Outside Waterleaf across from Planned Parenthood, 3051 E. New York Ave, Aurora

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

Local contact:

Phil Price (252) 205-0991

Beth Doroff (630) 854-1092

Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/Aurora



MAKE IT MARMION DAY!

JUST FOR 8TH GRADERS!
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9
9AM TO NOON!



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, September 25

8:30 AM Mass

John Henn

Tuesday, September 26

8:30 AM Mass

Ethan Mueller (sp. Int.)

Wednesday, September 27

8:30 AM Mass

James Putz

9:30 AM Mass

Jerry Naylor (Miss Kate's Father-in-Law)

Thursday, September 28

8:30 AM Mass

James Iddings

Friday, September 29

8:30 AM Mass

Frank Ybarra

Saturday, September 30

8:30 AM Mass

Frank Thomas Walsh

5:00 PM Mass

Patricia & Michelle Beeson

Sunday, October 01

8:00 AM Mass

Jadwiga Otwiaska & Deceased Family members

10:00 AM Mass

Adrian Pere

12:00 PM Mass

People of STM

Presiders

Saturday, September 30

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

Sunday, October 01

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

Adoration Candles Intentions

September 24 – September 30

Daniel Coyle

October 01 – October 07

The Pasholk & Thompson Families



**Weekend
SILENT RETREATS**

Spend a peaceful weekend with our Lord in silence, contemplation, and prayer at the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

**Miles Christi Silent Retreats
Marytown Retreat Center**

For Men	For Women
October 27-29, 2023 Libertyville, IL	November 3-5, 2023 Libertyville, IL

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