

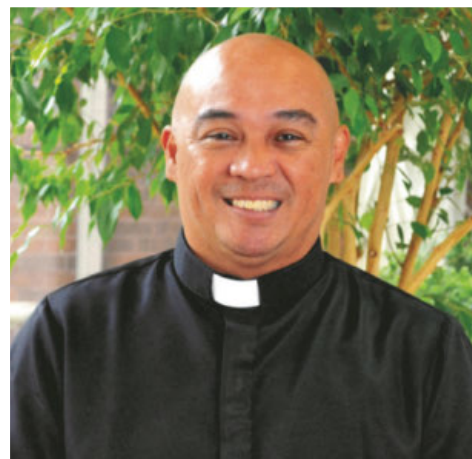
OCTOBER 01, 2023

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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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 15th Bulletin

Materials Due: **October 02, 2023**

October 22nd Bulletin

Materials Due: **October 09, 2023**

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PARISH NEWS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

LETTER from Fr. Browning

We continue our journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church this week with paragraphs 1333-1336. The title of this section is The Eucharist in the Economy of Salvation, and the subtitle is The Signs of Bread and Wine.

Paragraph 1333 reminds us that "at the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that, by the words of Christ and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, become Christ's Body and Blood." It mentions how the Church continues to do this in His memory until His glorious return. We can best understand this remembrance from the Jewish perspective rather than our modern one. The Jewish remembrance, connected with the Passover, was more than a recalling of the events of the Passover but an actual participation in that event. Similarly, the remembrance Jesus calls the Church to regarding His Last Supper is more than a recalling of His passion, death, and resurrection but is made present to us at Mass. God transports us to the eternal sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. Heaven and earth touch in the celebration of the Mass. We can better understand the obligation of Sunday and Holy Day Masses as a privilege, a gratuitous gift of God. Bread and wine is God's gift in creation, and He prepared us for those to become gifts for eternal life.

Paragraph 1334 points to the Old Covenant's use of bread and wine. Bread and wine were offered as the first fruits of the earth and as a sign of gratitude to the

Creator. They received a new significance in the Exodus: the unleavened bread of the Passover reminds the Israelites of the quick departure that liberated them from Egypt. The manna in the desert is a sign that we live by the bread of the Word of God. Daily bread is the fruit of the promised land. The cup of blessing at the end of the Passover meal speaks to the heavenly joy that awaits us at the end of this earthly life. Jesus takes all these Old Covenant images, preparing us for the authentic and definitive meaning of the bread and wine.

The miracles of the multiplication of the loaves in Jesus' ministry prefigures the superabundance of the Eucharist. Jesus takes the loaves, says the blessing, breaks, and distributes the loaves to feed the multitude of people. The sign of water turned to wine at the wedding of Cana announces the Hour of Jesus' glorification (his Sacrifice). It also prefigures the wedding feast of Heaven, the Father's Kingdom, where God fills the faithful with the joy of the new wine that has become the blood of Christ (see paragraph 1335).

Jesus' first announcement of the Eucharistic reality in John 6 scandalized many of his disciples: "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it? (John 6:60). The Eucharist and the Cross are stumbling blocks. This same mystery we celebrate today continues to be a source of division. But Jesus asks us as He did his remaining disciples: "Will you also go away? (John 6:67). The Lord's question resounds through the ages as a loving invitation to discover that only He has "the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Receiving in faith the gift of the Eucharist is to receive Jesus Himself.

He is here, remaining with us until the end of time in the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the Holy Eucharist. Let us ask the Lord to ignite our hearts, dispel our doubts, and give us the gift of faith in His Holy Eucharist. What a gift!

In Eucharistic amazement,
Fr. Browning

A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY

KONTI LANG: "Willing and Unwilling"



Fr. Edil Jarapa

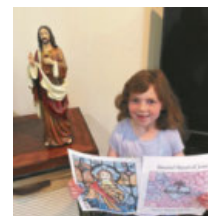
In the parable of the two sons, we have no reason to prefer one over the other; both are guilty of sin. However, their ultimate actions prove them different. After his blunt refusal, the first son repents of his sin and goes to work for his father. He sets his heart to do what his father wants. Though he promptly promises, the second son fails to perform. This parable simply teaches us that it is never too late to make a decision and to act upon it, especially if it is for the better. Do not get stocked in our sinfulness or bad habits. We are created by God purposely to be productive and have meaningful life and we can only do that if we remain on His side. It does not come easy; we have to work hard, remain faithful to God and consistently do His will.

Parish Office Closed

The parish office will be **closed Monday, October 9th** in observance of Columbus Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, October 10th at 9:00AM.

Traveling Sacred Heart

Thank you to the **RUSZ FAMILY** for bringing the Sacred Heart statue into your home.



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

† Rita Dodd

† 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

† Manuel Roman

† Maria Roman

† Melanie Sipe

† Richard Sutton

† Gabriel Tomlinson

† Louise Wolff

SYMPATHY List

Rest In Peace

† Linda Rakowski

READINGS of the Day

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

Podcast audio, videos and daily prayers.

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

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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

BAPTISM at STM

We welcome
this child
to God's family.



Lee Michael Zanolelli

His parents Michael and Christie



HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin

28th Annual Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference

Saturday, November 18, 2023

8:50 AM - 4:00 PM*

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TO REGISTER ONLINE OR FOR MORE INFO GO TO THETALK.ORG

OR CALL US AT 888-849-2282

Many parishes are selling tickets!

\$45 Early Bird if purchased by Oct. 20, \$50 if purchased after Oct. 20, \$55 at the door
\$25 for college students and younger, and \$10 for deacons.

*Doors open at 8:00 AM. Ticket price includes lunch & parking.

Scan code to register:



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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 use the QR code to be directed to our website map and sign-up to choose a street to let us know where you will be praying.

Bishops Luncheon

Women and men of the Diocese are invited to the Bishop's Luncheon on Wednesday, October 18, at St. Mary Parish Center, Sterling, IL. Sponsored by Rockford DCCW. 11:00 check-in; 12:00 buffet lunch.

Send reservation - \$30.00 check payable to RDCCW to Jean Nosek at 12719 Legend Lake Dr. Roscoe 61073. jeannosek@gmail.com. Deadline is October 11.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Did you know that over 22,000 babies have been saved, and 132 abortion centers have been closed due to 40 Days for Life? From September 27th - November 4th the Rockford Family Initiative will be holding 40 Days for Life in Rockford at the Auburn Street abortion center. This is only a 40 day campaign, but it is very powerful and has saved the lives of countless babies in the womb! The goal is to have at least one person praying outside at 611 Auburn Street from 8AM to 8PM, Monday through Saturday.

Please visit <https://www.proliferockford.com/> to sign up for a day/time.

We have been invited by St. Patrick Church in St. Charles to join their prayer vigil to celebrate life and pray for an end to abortion. We encourage you to sign up for this worthy cause.

St. Patrick Day of Prayer Vigil, 10/7/2023

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

Use the link below to register for a specific time.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0449AAAB2BA0FB6-stpatrick3#/>

If you are unable to attend on 10/7/23, 40 Days For Life Vigil extends from Sept. 25 to Nov. 5, 7 am to 7 pm. Local contacts: Phil Price 252.205.0991, Beth Doroff 630.854.1092

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, October 02

8:30 AM Mass

Socorro Rocha Espino

Linda Becci

Tuesday, October 03

8:30 AM Mass

Connie Merklind

Juanita Torres

Wednesday, October 04

8:30 AM Mass

Harold & Sylvia Bauman

Deacon Bob Plazewski

9:30 AM Mass

Sonia LePoudre

Thursday, October 05

8:30 AM Mass

Vivian Pasholk

Friday, October 06

8:30 AM Mass

All Souls

Saturday, October 07

8:30 AM Mass

Michael Gustek (sp. Int.)

5:00 PM Mass

Ruth & Robert Evans

Sunday, October 08

8:00 AM Mass

People of STM

10:00 AM Mass

Marge Banker

Johann Siby (sp. Int. 3rd Birthday)

12:00 PM Mass

Matthew Lynch

Presiders

Saturday, October 07

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Ejay

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Linster

Sunday, October 08

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Linster

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Ejay

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Adoration Candles Intentions

October 01 – October 07

The Pasholk & Thompson Families

October 08 – October 14

Healing prayers for all the people in the world suffering from cancer and all other illnesses. For troubled families and marriages, that they find forgiveness, patience, and healing to become whole again.





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