

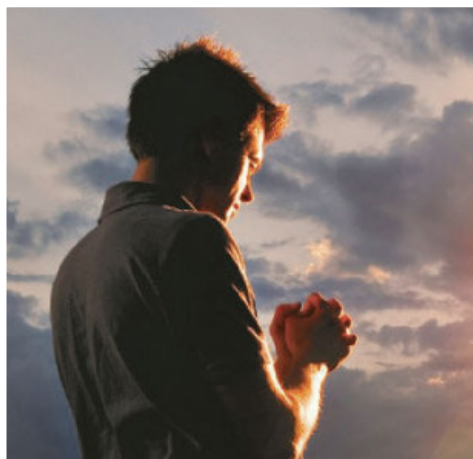
OCTOBER 08, 2023

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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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

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 22nd Bulletin

Materials Due: **October 09, 2023**

October 29th Bulletin

Materials Due: **October 16, 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 1337-1340. This section teaches about the Institution of the Eucharist.

The thirteenth chapter of John's Gospel gives us a profound insight into the heart of God for His people. God's love for us is the reason for the institution of the Eucharist. Jesus, having loved his own, loved them to the end (John 13:1). Knowing the hour had come to return to the Father, in the course of the Passover meal, he washed their feet, giving the example and command to love as he loves (see John 13:1-17).

During the Lord's Supper, Jesus institutes the Eucharist to memorialize his death and Resurrection and commands his apostles to celebrate it until his return. In its Jewish context, this memorial is not only a remembering but, in a mysterious way, a making present the thing remembered. Jesus institutes the Eucharist and, at the same time, the ministerial priesthood ordained to offer this sacrifice (see Catechism 1337).

Thank You!

Little Sisters of the Poor would like to give a big thank you to all who have donated.

See full letter posted on our church bulletin board.



The three synoptic Gospels and Saint Paul give us this account of the institution of the Eucharist and priesthood. John wrote his Gospel after theirs, so he reports the words of Jesus in the synagogue of Capernaum that prepare for the institution of the Eucharist. In John chapter 6, Jesus calls himself the true bread of life who has come down from heaven. Jesus repeats five times the necessity of eating his flesh and drinking his blood for eternal life (John 6:35-59). Many of his disciples left him after this teaching because it was too difficult for them to believe (see John 6:66).

Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his apostles during the Jewish Passover meal. Jesus gives the Jewish Passover its definitive meaning. The Jewish Passover was a remembering that made present the exodus from Egypt and God's intervention to save his people. Jesus' Last Supper is the true Passover. Jesus intervenes to save us not from earthly enemies but from spiritual ones (sin, death, the devil). Jesus passes over to the Father by his death and Resurrection (conquering sin, death, and the devil).

The Last Supper anticipates Jesus' Passover, which is the fulfillment of the Jewish Passover, and it anticipates the final Passover of the Church into the glory of the Heavenly Kingdom (see Catechism 1340).

Jesus institutes the Eucharist as the fruit of his sacrifice to save us from sin, open up heaven's gates, and remain with us until the end of time. God is love, which motivates him to give us his life in the Eucharist.

Questions for reflection:

- Do I participate weekly in this outpouring of God's love? If no, what needs to change to put God first?
- If yes, do I prepare for Sunday Mass through daily prayer? Do I offer myself to God at Mass?

In Jesus' love,
Fr. Browning

A LETTER FROM FR. EJAY

KONTI LANG: "Tenants"



Fr. Edil Jarapa

This Sunday's parable reminds us that God is the ultimate landowner, and we are merely his tenants. That's why we as Christians understand ourselves to be stewards of God's creation, rather than owners. As tenants, we have been entrusted with this world, with all that we have, and are now called to care for it well, and to give our creator the fruits of our harvest. Unfortunately, some of us are not responsible tenants because we disregard God's original plan and beauty of nature and gradually destroy his creation. This happens because of man's pride and selfish effort to take control of the world.

Knights of Columbus

The Elgin Knights of Columbus will be hosting their Respect Life program "Knights over Bridges " Friday, **October 13 from 8AM till 6:30PM** at Rts. 31 & 20. We are asking for 1 1/2 hour shifts, we can accommodate 6 people per shift, so if you know someone who might be interested, contact Marshall Spangler at **m.span50@yahoo.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
 † Michael Abbs
 † Eunice Bai
 † AnnMarie LoPiccolo- Carlsen
 † 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
 † Barbara Pruter
 † 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.

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

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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

TRAVELING

Parishioners

DINGLE, IRELAND

St. Mary's Church in Dingle,
 County Kerry, Ireland
 ~ Mary Stolp



HENDERSON, NEVADA

St. Thomas More Church in Henderson.
 ~ Keith and Arlene Williams

HAPPENINGS

St. Thomas More Parish, Elgin





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INTERNATIONAL

Whether you experience same-sex attractions and are committed to following the Catholic Church's teaching on chastity (Courage) or you have a family member or loved one who identifies as LGBTQ+ (EnCourage), you are not alone. Join our global Courage and EnCourage family and discover a Vatican-approved apostolate that provides confidential support. To learn more, visit Couragerc.org. Inquire about our local Courage chapter in Rockford at pkaim@rockforddiocese.org, and our local EnCourage chapter in Elgin at rbrowning@rockforddiocese.org.



MISSION APPEAL

Our generosity through prayer and financial support enables others to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to lands and peoples which we ourselves cannot personally visit.

On October 14-15, 2023, we will hold the annual collection for the Mission Appeal. Please consider giving a gift to the Mission Appeal.

Please look for your Mission Appeal envelope in the mail and bring it to Mass with you, or donate online at www.rockforddiocese.org/donate.

ONE/IN CHRIST

OCTOBER 14-15, 2023

FELLOWSHIP

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	SEP 27	YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	OCT 18
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	NOV 29	YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	DEC TBD
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	JAN 24	YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	FEB 21
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	MAR 20	YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	APR 17
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GRADES 6-12 6-8 PM ROBERTS HALL	MAY 15	CAMPERS GRADES 6-8 COUNSELORS GRADES 9-12	JUN CAMP

@STM_FELLOWSHIP

28th Annual Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference

Saturday, November 18, 2023

8:50 AM - 4:00 PM*

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Mass with Bishop David J. Malloy

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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STM Fellowship Club

Tuesday, October 17th at 12 Noon

Theme: Autumn/Halloween

Come dressed in Autumn or Halloween attire, enjoy autumn food, and listen to our interesting speaker: Steve Thoren who will be sharing information on "Wing Manor" one of 22 historical landmarks in Elgin.



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.

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 09

8:30 AM Mass

Nicholas Webber

Tuesday, October 10

8:30 AM Mass

Terry Townsend

Wednesday, October 11

8:30 AM Mass

Beatrice Berthiaume

Karen Johnson

9:30 AM Mass

LaVerne Amrein

Thursday, October 12

8:30 AM Mass

Anita Curtis

Friday, October 13

8:30 AM Mass

Harvey Buenaventura

Saturday, October 14

8:30 AM Mass

Virginia Lisiecki

5:00 PM Mass

Maynard & Ann Decker

Sunday, October 15

8:00 AM Mass

Deceased members of the Duxbury Family

10:00 AM Mass

Brent & Donna Browning (sp. Int.)

12:00 PM Mass

People of STM

Presiders

Saturday, October 14

8:30 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

5:00 PM Mass

Fr. Browning

Sunday, October 15

8:00 AM Mass

Fr. Browning

10:00 AM Mass

Fr. Ejay

12:00 PM Mass

Fr. Ejay

Adoration Candles Intentions

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.

October 15 – October 21

Patrick William Miller

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.




You are Invited to a Prayer Breakfast!

Saturday, October 28th, 2023
at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Huntley, IL
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Fr. Keith Romke

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