

January 19, 2020

# St. Thomas More Parish

Troy, Michigan



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

*John 1:29*



## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

### RECONCILIATION ROOM

All parishioners are now able to start using a new **Reconciliation Room** for the Sacrament of Penance (confession). To gain entrance to the room, please do so through the Eucharistic Chapel. The signage for the room has not arrived yet but as soon as they get here we will be installing them.

The Reconciliation Room allows for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance with two options. You may celebrate the sacrament “behind the screen” or “face to face” with the priest.

I encourage all parishioners to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. The recent Advent Communal Penance Service was attended by many and the communal form will once again be celebrated in Lent. **Weekly confessions are heard each Saturday at 3:00 PM.** Remember, God is always full of mercy and love for each of us.

### YEAR OF OUR LORD

A new year is, of course, a time of hope and promise. Any time we are given the opportunity to start over, the human spirit, most of the time, sees new opportunities and a hope that things will be better. This should be our attitude and prayer as we enter **the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty.**

I mention “Year of Our Lord,” Anno Domini (A.D.) because that is how we, as people of faith, should see the time that is given to us. **This is God’s time that we are privileged to be able to use.** If it is to be a “happy new year” it will be largely because we make it a year of service to God and neighbor, as Christ has commanded us.

Do you want to be happy? Then love God and love your neighbor! Serve God and serve your neighbor! Have a wonderful week and please find a place for me in your prayers.

Msgr. Tom Rice



*Due to colds and flu being widespread and severe this season, we are temporarily suspending the distribution of the Precious Blood during Holy Communion.*

*We remind you to take special care in your interactions with others this cold and flu season.*

## Martin Luther King Day Mass Monday, January 20



**Musical Prelude: 9:45 AM**

**Mass: 10:00 AM**

**Celebrant: Most Rev. Donald Hanchon**  
(Reception to follow immediately after Mass)

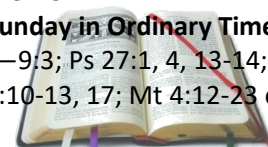
**Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament**  
**9844 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202**

*Presented by the Archdiocese of Detroit Cultural Ministries Office and Black Catholic Ministries*

For more information, contact Vickie Figueroa at 313 596-7103 or email [figueroa.vickie@aod.org](mailto:figueroa.vickie@aod.org)

### Readings for the Week of January 19, 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9,10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr;</b> <b>Saint Sebastian, Martyr</b> 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mk 2:18-22
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr</b> 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children</b> 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr;</b> <b>Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin</b> 1 Sm 18:6-9, 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13; Mk 3:7-12
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11; Mk 3:13-19
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle</b> Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 8:23—9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or Mt 4:12-17





# PRAYER REQUESTS

## THIS WEEK'S EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 18</b>
4:30p	Marie Liposky
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 19</b>
7:30a	Robert Etue—24th Anniversary Marie Liposky
9:30a	Tom Jensen—Special Intention Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Marie Liposky Micky Nido—Special Intention Michael VanLoon—Special Intention
11:30a	Marie Liposky Ann Ellen Mulvaney
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 21</b>
9:00a	Agnes Doran—Birthday Remembrance Mary Czanstke—Birthday Remembrance The Jeziorski Family—Special Intention Jim McCown—4th Anniversary
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 22</b>
9:00a	Jerry & Emily Calkins—Special Intention
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 23</b>
9:00a	Jerry & Emily Calkins—Special Intention Micky Nido—Special Intention
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 25</b>
4:30p	For the People of St. Thomas More
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 26</b>
7:30a	Carol Black—Special Intention Lynn Bonney—Special Intention Arthur Schmaltz—18th Anniversary Mary B. Whiting—Special Intention
9:30a	Tom Jensen—Special Intention Marie Liposky Michael VanLoon—Special Intention
11:30a	Thomas V. Aylward Patty Dahmen

## 24 Hour Prayer Line

The Nuns of the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament have initiated a 24 Hour Prayer Line.

The Sisters are attentive to begin the requested prayers promptly—248-626-8253 or email [opnunsfh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:opnunsfh@sbcglobal.net)



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rosanne Bishop	Karson Otto
Cindy Byrne	Ben Riss
Chris Crocker	Elaine Rosen
Herbert Foos	Carol Simmons
Mildred Hannigan	Rick Vuylsteke
Collin Jones	Helen Walczak
Arthur Miller	Mary B. Whiting
Leonard Noppenberger	Mark Widawski
Jim and Joan Olson	

## PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

*Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of:*

† **David Booth**—husband of Frances Booth

† **Rev. Paul Larry Sirosky**

*"Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them."*



Congratulations to the new members of God's family, who were welcomed into the Catholic Church through the waters of Baptism  
January 12, 2020

† **Kennedy Jean Kelly**

† **Shea Theodore Kelly**

**Children of Philip and Sarah (Turner) Kelly**

*May God bless and keep these little ones safe in His tender love and mercy.*

In Every Age,  
**O LORD,**  
You Have Been Our  
**REFUGE.**



## PRAY FOR THE MILITARY



Major Matthew Altomari  
SSgt. Cory Borders  
Lt. Andrew Boschert  
Major Phil Brule  
Sgt. Maj. Patrick Corcoran  
Capt. Joel Cortright  
ENS Michael Dwyer  
Capt. Chip Evans  
Spc. Evan K. Fowler  
2nd Lt. Theresa Corsentino  
SSgt. Daniel F. Jamison  
M1st Class Megan Jamison

Lt. Christopher Mitek  
OS2 Emily Muhlenbeck  
Airman 1st Class Calen Nido  
Senior Airman Grant Pensa  
LTJg. Bradley Pienta  
Capt. Nick Pollock  
Pfc. Jack Steinhauer  
Sgt. Kyle Stout  
Capt. Ben VanHorrick  
Spc. Carl Voag  
LTJG. Adam Weisgerber

# WORSHIP

## LECTOR TRAINING – January 26

### Sunday of the Word of God

#### Immediately following 11:30 AM Mass

Pope Francis recently declared that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be the **Sunday of the Word of God**, a day devoted to the celebration of Sacred Scripture, marked with solemnity, and a time for members of the faithful to be formed as “genuine proclaimers of the Word.”



All current Lectors/Commentators, and all confirmed parishioners who wish to explore becoming a Reader at Mass, are invited to attend a meeting for reflection on the Word of God, for further formation as Liturgical Readers, and to receive a brief training on effective proclamation of Scripture.

Please plan on either attending this Mass or arriving before the end of Mass (no later than 12:20 PM) so that you can be included in the commissioning of lectors which includes a blessing. Immediately following Mass, we will remain in the church for our formation and training workshop.

The training will take approximately one hour. Following the training we will adjourn to the social hall for refreshments and fellowship.

## Sunday of the Word of God

Next week, on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, we will celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God for the first time. Last year Pope Francis instituted the Sunday of Word of God, “so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people” (*Misericordi et Misera*, 7). The Scriptures are treasures filled with countless riches! From Genesis to Revelation, God speaks to us in human language. By speaking to us, God reveals his part in this great love story: “God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him” (1 John 4:16).

Pope Francis is asking everyone in the Church, every diocese, parish, family, and parishioner, to read and listen to the Word of God anew. In preparation for the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God, consider your favorite Scripture passage. How has God used it to speak to you, change your heart, lead you, or bring you peace? Ask yourself how can I be open in these coming days to receive the gift of loving the Word of God more? How can I make my own these words from today’s psalm, “In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart” (Psalm 40:8-9)?

Written by Reverend Brian Meldrum

## MINISTERS FOR MASS—THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—JANUARY 25 & 26

MASS TIME	4:30 PM Saturday	7:30 AM Sunday	9:30 AM Sunday	11:30 AM Sunday
<b>CELEBRANT</b>	Msgr. Tom Rice	Msgr. Tom Rice	Fr. Bob Spezia	Fr. Bob Spezia
<b>DEACON</b>	Michael Stach	Michael Stach	Don Baross	Don Baross
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Emma Kotwick	Pat Schultz	Keith Knauss	Chris Mann
<b>LECTOR</b>	Phil Kotwick	Jim Schultz	Craig Como	Sue Kator
<b>SERVERS</b>	Avery Curcuru Amy Surowiec NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED	Claire DePorre Rory Knauss NOT FILLED	Duarte Bobone Heidi Jackson NOT FILLED
<b>USHERS</b>	Carol Glowacki Jim Hager Don McKay Cary Sheremet Ernesto Tuazon	John Gielniak Dan Hayden Tom Hemak Mike Morrison Frank Sikorski Ron Wlosinski	Norm Cicone Jim Duhart Gerry Gostomski George Halter Andy Olson Jim Ward Greg Wise	Zach Azzam Ted Craig Marvin Olane Mark Parent Mike Tauscher
<b>MASS COORD.</b>	Carol Glowacki	Larry Jeziorski	Melinda Prucha	Tom Calnen
<b>RECEPTIONIST</b>	Nancy Frawley	NOT FILLED	Jean Dasch	Lynn Eschrich

## IN OUR PARISH

### THE WEEK AHEAD

- ♦ **Monday, January 20**  
The MEN of STM, 7p
- ♦ **Tuesday, January 21**  
STM Book Club, 10a  
Contemporary Choir Rehearsal, 6p  
Bible Study, The Creed, 7p
- ♦ **Thursday, January 23**  
Hand Bell Rehearsal, 10a  
SOV Catechist Formation, 4:30p  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30p
- ♦ **Sunday, January 26**  
Coffee and Conversation after all Masses  
Faith Formation Classes, 8:15a, 10:15a, 6:15p  
First Reconciliation Parent/Student Meeting  
Catechesis of the Good shepherd, Level I, 8:15a, 9:30a  
Lector/Commentator Seminar, 11:30a  
Bible Study, 7p  
Youth Group, 7p



**After all Sunday Masses**

*Free-will offering is greatly appreciated!*



Conversation with Catholic men...  
Join the discussion!

**Monday, January 20 @ 7:00pm**  
**Church Conference Room**

(Sacristy Hallway as you enter the Sanctuary)



### St. Thomas More Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

**Paul's Auto Wash**

(See their ad on the back cover of the bulletin)

*Thanks to the advertisers the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the Parish. We ask parishioners to please support the businesses that advertise in our bulletin.*



### Book Club

The STM Book Club selection for January is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. You may recall that she is the author of *The Nightingale*. Our selection is a novel about a 70s Vietnam war POW with PTSD who moves with his family to remote Alaska to live off the land. The long dark Alaskan winter seems bright compared to the dark demons of the protagonist's mind.

Please join us on Tuesday, 1/21 at 10:00am in Room 2 for the discussion.

### Grief Support

***Due to attendance, the Drop-In Grief Support Group has been discontinued.***

If you are in need of a Grief Support Group, Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors offers an eight-week series for those who have experienced the death of a loved one within the last 12 months. The program is on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm beginning January 28 through March 17. There is no charge but registration is required.

To register or for additional information, call 248-362-2500 or go to [AJDesmond.com](http://AJDesmond.com).

### LOVE TO PLAY EUCHRE?? LOVE TO WIN MONEY??



**JOIN US ON FRIDAY,  
JANUARY 31 AT 7:00 P.M. IN  
ROOM 2 TO PLAY EUCHRE WITH  
YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS**

**RSVP to [stmhospitality@gmail.com](mailto:stmhospitality@gmail.com)  
\$5.00 to play**

**BEGINNERS WELCOME!!**

# FAITH FORMATION

## South Oakland Vicariate Catechist Formation THURSDAY, January 23, 2020

### Saint Thomas More Parish

This is a great opportunity for catechist on their journey to become a certified catechist. There is no cost to you if you are a St. Thomas More parishioner. If you have any questions, email [Josylin@stmoffice.com](mailto:Josylin@stmoffice.com) or stop by the Faith Formation office for more information.

**Registration / Sign In: 4:30 – 5:00 pm**

**Session I: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

**Dinner and Prayer: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm** *Catechists are encouraged to attend dinner and prayer to complete the prayer requirement for each topic session.*

**Session II: 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**

**Online registration available at:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a45a5af2aa0fb6-catechist>

**Hope to see you there!**



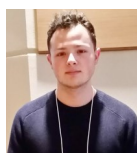
52 Sundays is a dynamic guide to help you and your family reclaim the Lord's Day with prayer, activities, food, and more! It offers simple and insightful ways for your family to spend time together each Sunday learning more about the Catholic faith and having fun while you're at it. Check out this

Sunday's content at <https://www.52sundays.com/>!



We are excited to share St. Thomas More recently created a group dedicated to young adults (between

the age of 21 and 30). The purpose of this group is to better integrate young adults to the parish by making them feel more welcomed. We try to meet twice a month for a meal at St. Thomas More or outside and have open discussions about different topics.



If you would like to join the group, please contact [YoungAdults.fromSTM@gmail.com](mailto:YoungAdults.fromSTM@gmail.com) or Paul Touillon at 248-795-9376.

Please share this invitation with other young adults. It would be great to have other young adults willing to join the group!

## FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

- ♦ Jan 19 and 20—No Classes for MLK (Office will be closed Jan 16-19)
- ♦ Jan 26 and 27—Regular Classes
- ♦ Feb 2—8:15 and 10:15 am classes only, No evening classes. (Super Bowl Sunday)
- ♦ Feb 9 and 10 —All classes resume
- ♦ Feb 16 and 17—No classes (Mid-Winter Break)
- ♦ Feb 23 and 24 —All classes resume

## Upcoming First Reconciliation/First Eucharist Events



- ♦ Jan 26—Parent Student Meeting in room 2 during child's class time.
- ♦ Feb 9—Practice for Sacrament of Reconciliation during your child's class time. Parents are encouraged to attend.
- ♦ Feb 11—7:00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation in the church. Please arrive no later than 6:45pm.



walking with purpose

There is no Walking with Purpose this week. Please join us next week for Connect Coffee Talk

## GETTING A GRIP THROUGH SIMPLICITY

**Wednesday, January 29 @ 7:00 PM or**

**Thursday, January 30 @ 10:00 AM**

Come and bring a friend! You do not have to be registered for the bible study to join us for a Connect Coffee! This is stand-alone lesson open to all women.

**adult faith**  CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP

## Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Our study on Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible for faith formation parents resumes **Sunday, January 26th from 7:00—8:15 pm** in room 2. Bring a friend or spouse; if you miss a class, come any way; you will be able to continue. All are welcome! For more information please email [jackdwithrow@comcast.net](mailto:jackdwithrow@comcast.net).



**ST. THOMAS MORE YOUTH GROUP  
INVITING ALL  
9TH THROUGH 12TH GRADERS**

- ♦ 1/19: Break MLK Day Weekend (**NO MEETING**)
  - ♦ 1/26: Regular Session 7:00-8:15 pm in the Social Hall
  - ♦ 2/2: No Meeting (Super Bowl Sunday)
  - ♦ 2/9: Laser Tag Offsite 7-8:30 pm
- Sign up via email at [pobrien@catholiccentral.net](mailto:pobrien@catholiccentral.net)**



# PARISH GIVING

## A Letter from the Immaculate Conception Monastery Passionist Community

Dear Rev. Msgr. Rice,

The Passionist Missionaries in Kenya, and the Superior, Fr. Andrew K'Ogacho cp, thank you and parishioners of St. Thomas More, Troy, for the generosity and hospitality you accorded me last summer. In the summer I visited the parish and preached at all Masses. I was welcomed most warmly in the parish. The people showed their appreciation for hearing the mission story from Kenya, and responded with great generosity. We are most grateful for the sum of **\$7,274.03** from the parish that we received through the office of the Propagation of the Faith. The Passionist Missionaries in Kenya are very happy to have established this relationship with the Church of St. Thomas More and we keep you in our prayers. We wish you a blessed New Year 2020.

Sincerely yours in Christ's Passion,

Rev. Gilbert Omolo, cp-Mission Coordinator  
Passionist Fathers Kenya

## 2019 Year End Statements

2019 Donation Statements will be mailed the last week of January. If you would like to receive your statement via email, please send an email to: [lois@stmoffice.com](mailto:lois@stmoffice.com). If we can email your statement, this will save the parish the cost of paper and postage. For questions, please contact Lois Sokolowski in the Parish Office.

Your CSA donation will be mailed from the AOD. For questions, call 313-237-5800.



## Giving from your IRA

Just a reminder that Congress made a permanent provision in the Consolidated Appropriations Act that allows those 70 ½ and older to contribute from their IRA's without paying tax on the distribution. If you are a once a year contributor, would like to make a special donation, or during the CSA drive, your IRA contribution may be right for your situation.

Please consult with your tax professional for more details.



## A Thank You to St. Thomas More

Dear St. Thomas More Parishioners,

The staff and people at Mary's Children Family Center were extremely grateful for the gifts and gift cards you sent from your Giving Tree. Your kindness, generosity, and support means a lot to us and we are very appreciative!

God bless you,

Mary's Children Family Center

## December 2019 Monthly Giving Report

Monthly Goal (\$16,240 x 4)	<b>\$81,200</b>
Envelope Total	\$59,682
Loose Cash/Check Donations	\$5,469
Received in Office	\$5,061
Electronic Giving	<u>\$6,936</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$77,148</b>

Monthly Overage/(Shortfall) **(\$4,052)**

## FISCAL YEAR TOTALS 2019-2020

Offertory Budget to Date (Inc. Holydays)	\$411,000
Actual Offertory Received to Date (Inc. Holydays)	<u>\$402,306</u>
Over/(Under) Fiscal Year 2019-2020	<b>(\$8,694)</b>

Weekly Offertory Received		Envelopes Received
December 1	\$17,114	234
8	\$16,083	344
15	\$11,734	234
22	\$ 8,706	199
29	\$ 6,045	167

Envelopes Issued 1325

Electronic Contributors 58



## Christmas Collection

Christmas Collection Budgeted	\$140,000
Christmas Collection Received	\$157,624
Over Budget	<b>\$17,624</b>

*Thank you for your generous offering and support!*

## UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

### EVANGELIZATION

#### Unleashing the Gospel in Your Family

by John Hannigan

Archbishop Vigneron's Pastoral Letter *Unleash the Gospel* is a clarion call to parishes and the Archdiocese of Detroit as a whole to act on our mission to bring all people to Encounter Jesus Christ, Growth in Faith, and Witness as joyful missionary disciples. But by far the most important focus of *Unleash the Gospel* is the family and raising children in the faith. Vigneron begins the section on *Families* quoting Deuteronomy (6:6-7):

*These words that I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children.*

God's command is not only for parents of younger children. Our responsibility to guide and mentor and be models continues when our children are teenagers, or even adults like mine. The Archbishop recognizes that individual families can be struggling, challenged by divorce, illness, bereavement, infertility, or other special needs. That is why he also calls us to accompany families (Action Step 1.2). The call to raise children in the faith is shared by grandparents and aunts and uncles. It is shared among brothers and sisters and cousins. And all of us at STM, as an extended parish family, are called to accompany families in their faith journeys.

I invite you to read or re-read *Unleash the Gospel* posted on: [www.stthomasmoretroy.org/pastoral-letter](http://www.stthomasmoretroy.org/pastoral-letter) particularly **Guidepost 7** on *Families* and **Action Step 1.3** on the *Christian Family Identity*.

Families are at the heart of *Unleash the Gospel* because they are the "domestic church," the first place and the first relationships through which life in Christ is experienced and lived. Moving toward an Encounter with Jesus begins in a home where everyone bears witness to God's unconditional love. Christian families live out "discipleship" in Christ "in the rhythms of their day-to-day interaction." We know this is hard! But the first step for a flourishing family life is daily prayer: parents praying for the strength to be faithful mothers or fathers; extended families praying for children; praying together, even with a simple Grace before meals.

The second step is coming together as a family every Sunday for Mass. Making weekend worship together the highest priority is an incalculable source of Grace that enriches all. Partaking together of spiritual nourishment at the Eucharistic banquet sustains families. For more ideas on strengthening families see [www.52sundays.com](http://www.52sundays.com).

## STEWARDSHIP

### TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE

#### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

##### South Oakland Vicarate Representative Needed

On Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, St. Thomas More will be hosting the South Oakland Vicarate meeting. You are invited to join the meeting to meet the Vicarate participants and learn more about the SOV. I am looking for a STM replacement to attend the SOV meetings. The commitment is not big. We have two remaining meetings for this year. Generally, we have 4-5 meetings for the year held on Tuesdays. I have been a STM representative for 5 years and it would be good to get a fresh set of eyes and ears to attend the SOV.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being a member of this group. It is nice to meet others from surrounding parishes and learn about activities that are shared between the vicariate. You get an update on the activities of the AOD and enjoy hospitality by the hosting parish. I sincerely request you consider this volunteer opportunity. You can contact me or attend the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> or express your interest to the STM parish office.

Diane Claeys, Stewardship Commission



#### Stewardship Thoughts

##### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today, in his First Letter to the Corinthian community, St. Paul stresses the call to holiness through Christ. We must be aware that sanctity — to make holy — is not only for those we recognize as "saints." In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Rejoice and Be Glad*, Pope Francis notes: *We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and bearing witness in everything we do* (paragraph 14). In St. John's Gospel, John the Baptist sees Jesus passing by and proclaims: *Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world*. Jesus is our perfect model of holiness. Do we, as Christian stewards, try to embrace Christ's example through our call to holiness? Important steps toward sanctity include frequently participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, attending weekend Mass to receive Holy Communion, making quiet time for daily prayer and Scripture reading, and generously serving your family, parish, and neighbors in need.



## COMMUNITY NEWS AND INTEREST

### National Catholic Schools Week

National Catholic Schools Week 2020 begins next Sunday, January 26. The theme of this annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States is "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." The Archdiocese of Detroit's Catholic schools are committed to their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal help ensure they are proudly Catholic, academically excellent, accessible to all, and sustainable for the future. The archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools offers resources for teachers and principals, parents and students, and alumni.

To learn more about Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, or to find a Catholic school, visit the department's new website at [detroitcatholicschools.org](http://detroitcatholicschools.org). For more information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to [aod.org](http://aod.org).



### Aquinas College STEM AQDay Friday, January 24

Aquinas College welcomes any high school students and families to our STEM AQDay on Friday, January 24. If you're interested in pursuing a career in science, technology, engineering, math, health sciences, nursing or kinesiology – this day is for you! Details and registration can be found at [aquinas.edu/STEMaqday](http://aquinas.edu/STEMaqday).



### HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020  
1 PM – 3 PM

PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE

680 Harmon, Birmingham, MI—248-644-2722

### Mass with Healing Prayer

Thursday, January 23

St. Lawrence Church, 44633 Utica Road, Utica, MI

Reconciliation, 5:30-6:30 PM

Praise and Worship, 6:30 PM

Mass, 7:00 PM

For more information, call 586-739-3802

(Free Will Offering)



### Academy of the Sacred Heart Open House - January 26th

Academy of the Sacred Heart will welcome families to the school's campus on Sunday, January 26 from 1-3 p.m. for its winter all-school open house. The event will showcase the breadth and depth of the Academy's offerings for students, from infancy through Upper School. Current faculty, staff and parents will be available to discuss curriculum, athletics, enrichment and leadership opportunities. Families will receive custom tours of their areas of interest, led by current Sacred Heart students. Light refreshments will be served.

Academy of the Sacred Heart is Michigan's oldest independent school, offering a Catholic, college-preparatory curriculum for girls (infant through Grade 12) and boys (infant through Grade 8). It is located at 1250 Kensington Road; visitors should use the administration entrance. For more information, call [248-646-8900](tel:248-646-8900) or visit [www.ashmi.org](http://www.ashmi.org).

### Priestly Vocations

This January 30 through February 2, men discerning a call to the priesthood have the chance to experience the seminary firsthand at a discernment weekend at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Men who are high school seniors to age 55 will spend four days living at the seminary, focusing on the aspects of seminary life and the four pillars of formation (spiritual, human, intellectual and pastoral fellowship), which are the foundation of the seminary formation program. They will also spend time in fellowship and prayer. Thanks to gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal, the archdiocesan Office of Priestly Vocations offers these up close and stress-free looks at seminary life several times a year. The next discernment weekend will be held March 19-22. A discernment overnight, for high school freshmen through juniors, will be held April 17-18. For more information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to [aod.org](http://aod.org).

## **St. Thomas More Parish Directory**

4580 Adams Rd., Troy, MI 48098

**PARISH OFFICES: 248-647-2222**

**FAX: 248-647-8192**

**FAITH FORMATION: 248-647-4680**

**Hours:** Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:00 pm

**[inquiry@stmoffice.com](mailto:inquiry@stmoffice.com)**

**[www.stthomasmoretroy.org](http://www.stthomasmoretroy.org)**

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 9:00 a.m. - Rosary before Mass

Holy Days: 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Thomas G. Rice, **Pastor**

248-647-2222 x. 1111

#### **Weekend Mass Assistance**

Fr. Robert Spezia

Deacon Don Baross

248-647-2222 x. 8888

[dcndonb@stmoffice.com](mailto:dcndonb@stmoffice.com)

#### **WORSHIP and CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

Deacon Michael Stach, **Pastoral Associate**

248-647-2222 x. 5555

[dcnmichael@stmoffice.com](mailto:dcnmichael@stmoffice.com)

#### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Brian Foos, **Director**

248 -647-2222 x. 4444

[bjfoos@gmail.com](mailto:bjfoos@gmail.com)

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

Lois Sokolowski, **Business Manager**

248-647-2222 x. 7777

[lois@stmoffice.com](mailto:lois@stmoffice.com)

Kathy Strong, **Parish Secretary/Bulletin**

248-647-2222 x. 3311

[kathy@stmoffice.com](mailto:kathy@stmoffice.com)

Eva Ashor, **Bookkeeper**

248-647-2222 x. 3333

[bookkeeper@stmoffice.com](mailto:bookkeeper@stmoffice.com)

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

Josylin Mateus, **Director**

248-647-4680

[josylin@stmoffice.com](mailto:josylin@stmoffice.com)

Angela Seba, **Secretary**

248-647-4680

[angela@stmoffice.com](mailto:angela@stmoffice.com)

Sandi Gardner, **Section Head**

248-647-4680

[sandi@stmoffice.com](mailto:sandi@stmoffice.com)

Patrick O'Brien, **Youth Minister**

[pobrien@catholiccentral.net](mailto:pobrien@catholiccentral.net)

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Debbie Knauss, Website and Facebook

[stmwebsite@stmoffice.com](mailto:stmwebsite@stmoffice.com)

#### **MAINTENANCE**

Ben Olar

Pete Whiting

248 -647-2222 x. 4422