

*St. Thomas More Catholic Church*

*Troy, Michigan*

*November 6, 2022*

*Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

# *National Vocation*

AWARENESS WEEK





## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

### THIS MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

During the month of November the Church invites us to reverently and prayerfully remember those who have gone before us in death. We are also encouraged to reflect upon the mystery of death, especially in terms of our relationship with Jesus.

We are all embarked on this earthy journey. Many of us are beset by fears. However, our fear of death is our deepest fear and lies at the root of most of our other fears. **But our Christian faith ought to make a big difference in the way we see death.** The story of every Christian's life is the story of a friendship with Jesus. This friendship begins with an encounter with Christ (at baptism). It also ends with an encounter with Jesus (at death).

For those with faith, death ceases to be an encounter with the unknown. Instead, it becomes an encounter with Christ. To someone who has made Christ the invisible companion of the journey of life, and whose life has been inspired by Jesus' teaching, death becomes a meeting with a good friend, in fact, with an older brother. When death comes, Christ comes also, bringing the everlasting life which he won for us with his own death.

**What each of us must do is very clear. We must strive to ensure that the Christ who linked his life with ours at Baptism, making us Children of God and heirs to Eternal Life, does not remain a shadowy figure on the margins of our lives, but becomes a friend in whom we are learning to confide in more and more.**

This relationship with Jesus is at the very heart of the Christian life. However, it is something **we must work at.** While we are on earth, as St. Paul says, "we see in a mirror dimly." Our knowledge of God, and of the things of God, is limited and easily gets clouded over. Besides this, our path is strewn with difficulties, puzzles, and temptations.

If our relationship with Jesus is the most important thing in our life, then death will lose its power over us and we will be able to live in the joy and freedom of the Children of God. Those who have developed a close and warm relationship with Christ during life will find it easier to recognize and trust Him when He comes at death.

Jesus comes to us many times during life, summoning us to a deeper and fuller life, a life more in keeping with our dignity as Children of the Father. When He comes to us at death, He will do for us what the Scriptures tell us He did for the little boy at Nain. **He will awaken us to life,** not however to this earthly life which must one day cease, but to eternal life which will never cease.

(Continued on page 7)

## REFLECTIONS FROM DEACON DON

### Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Back in the 80's I flew hot air balloons. My family and I would fly locally but we also liked to go to some balloon festivals. One of our favorite was the Jackson Balloon Festival which was fun because you received points for doing certain things, like giving a sponsor of the festival a ride, or touching down on a lake and getting your sponsors feet wet. We were given a local spotter that would ride in the chase vehicle and make sure you were doing the things you said you did. At the end the one with the most points won. After our evening flights we would hang out in the hotel parking lot and have a few beers and tell stories of our flights. We attended the festival for several years and the last year I was given a nun as a spotter, Sister Barbara. I could hear God laugh because back then I would cuss and swear at different things and now I had to watch my foul mouth. Sister surprised me by saying that if she wrote up the way I did my points a certain way we could get even more points and I thought, O'Lord what have I done? I have corrupted a nun and she is bending the rules for me.

In our gospel the Sadducees are questioning Jesus again. This time about the resurrection that they don't believe in. They start out by saying, "Moses wrote for us," and they are referring to the law and they go on to tell about the six brothers who marry the first brother's wife, because he died childless. They were using the law that Moses had given them to trap Jesus. Jesus explains to them that they don't die because God is the God of the living not of the dead. In other words He is pastorally explaining life eternal.

In our church there are many that will tell people they are wrong rather than sit down with them and explain the laws or the rules of the church with them. For a summer in my diaconate formation I ministered in the hospital. I know that there is a healing presence in the Eucharist and I was told to give the Eucharist to the people even if they had not gone to church in a while. The chaplain said, "We need to heal their soul first and then we can take care of their physical illness of not going to church." In a way he was bending the rules a little much like Sister Barbara did for me. Many people have left the church because someone has said something that has offended them and they haven't come back. We all need to be the invitation for them to come back to the church and heal their ailing soul.

God bless, Deacon Don

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## THIS WEEK'S EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 5</b>
4:30p	†Debbie Carryer †Joseph Walczak †Michael Sass Sr. †Sharon Harte
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 6</b>
8:30a	For the People of St. Thomas More
11:30a	†Arline Hahn †James Michael McGraw
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>November 9</b>
9:00a	All Souls Intention
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 12</b>
4:30p	For the People of St. Thomas More
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 13</b>
8:30a	†John F. Butler Jr.
11:30a	†Arline Hahn †Ann Henning



## PRAY FOR THE MILITARY



Major Matthew Altomari	Lt. Julia Jermstad
SSgt. Cory Borders	Lt. Christopher Mitek
Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Boschert	OS2 Emily Muhlenbeck
Major Phil Brule	Airman 1st Class Calen Nido
Sgt. Maj. Patrick Corcoran	Senior Airman Grant Pensa
2nd Lt. Theresa Corsentino	LTjg. Bradley Pienta
Capt. Joel Cortright	Capt. Nick Pollock
ENS Michael Dwyer	Sgt. Jack Steinhauer
1st Lt. Michael Ehlen	Sgt. Kyle Stout
Major Charles Evans	Capt. Ben VanHorrick
Pfc. Cole Hayden	Spc. Carl Voag
SSgt. Daniel F. Jamison	Lt. Adam Weisgerber
M1st Class Megan Jamison	



**Charles Paul Kleismith, Jr.**  
Born May 24, 1928  
Died October 15, 2022  
Buried from St. Thomas More  
October 19, 2022



**Deborah Marie Carryer**  
Born September 26, 1952  
Died October 13, 2022  
Buried from St. Thomas More  
October 25, 2022

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.*

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rosanne Bishop                           Marge Qualmann

### PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

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

† Charles P. Klein-Smith  
† Deborah Marie Carryer  
† Jamie Strong-Daughter of Kathy Strong  
† Joe Sokolowski—Brother of Lois Sokolowski  
† Fr. Raphael Shen, S.J.

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



**DETROIT  
PRIESTLY  
VOCATIONS**

*National Vocation Awareness Week is celebrated this week in our country.*

*Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women.*

*May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation.*

## An Election Prayer to Mary

**O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.**

**Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection. Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.**

**Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life.**

# WORSHIP

## Rob's Ruminations

Voting as a Catholic

On November 8<sup>th</sup> we have several issues to vote on, including a seriously extreme proposal along with electing a new governor, senators, and congress people. How we vote this week will greatly impact lives for a long time. But what does the Catholic Church actually say the issues and candidates?

While it is “*part of the Church’s mission ‘to pass moral judgment even in matters related to politics, whenever the fundamental rights of man or the salvation of souls requires it’*” (CCC 2246), the Church is very cautious on when it will step in and will only do so in accordance with “*the Gospel and the welfare of all men*” (CCC 2246). Thus, the Catholic Church in America will never endorse a specific candidate or political party. It has condemned certain aspects of communism, socialism, and capitalism (see CCC 2425), but there is no perfect ideology in running a country. So the Church stays attentive to the issues at hand and prays for the leaders of the country: Democrat, Republican, or otherwise.

While there are many issues that our society faces, some are more important than others because they deal with battling against intrinsic evil. In the words of Pope St. John Paul II in his apostolic exhortation *Christifideles Laici, no 38*:

Above all, the outcry, which is made justly on the behalf of human rights—for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture—is **false and illusory if the right to life**, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other principal rights, **is not defended with maximum determination**.

This is why the Church has adamantly stepped out against Proposal 3. If Proposal 3 passes, fundamental rights and souls are at risk. We need to do our best defending life of the most vulnerable.

Providing guidance in whom to elect, the Church will not come out and tell us for whom to vote. However in 2006 Pope Benedict XVI addressed the European Parliamentary Group and gave 3 *non-negotiable principals* that will help us look at the candidates through God’s eyes:

1. **The Dignity of Human Life**—protection of life in all its stages.
2. **Recognition and promotion of the Dignity of Marriage and Family**
3. **Religious Freedom**—protection of the right of parents to educate their children.

Starting here, we must study each candidate for who will promote God’s Will, not a political agenda.

May God bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

~Rob Leonard

MINISTERS FOR MASS — THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — NOVEMBER 12 & 13, 2022			
MASS TIME	4:30 PM Saturday	8:30 AM Sunday	11:30 AM Sunday
CELEBRANT DEACON	TBD Don Baross	Fr. Jacob VanAsshe Michael Stach	Fr. Robert Spezia Don Baross
READER	Leslie Ward	Keith Knauss	Joan Reddy
SERVERS	Samantha Foley	Randy Skala	Duarte Bobone
USHERS	Jeff Lapointe Cary Sheremet Jim Ward	John Gielniak Gerry Gostomski Dan Hayden Tom Hemak Mike Morrison Frank Sikorski Paul Kruse	Zack Azzam Norm Ciccone George Halter Marvin Olane Mark Parent Mike Tauscher
MASS COORD.	Cathy Mitchell	David Michalak	Marvin Olane

# IN OUR PARISH

## THE WEEK AHEAD

- ◆ **Saturday, November 5**  
Reconciliation—3:00PM  
Mass—4:30PM
- ◆ **Sunday, November 6**  
Mass—8:30AM  
Mass—11:30AM  
Middle School Faith Formation—7:00PM
- ◆ **Monday, November 7**  
Justice & Peace Committee Meeting—7:00PM  
The MEN of STM—7:00PM
- ◆ **Tuesday, November 8**  
**Vote NO on Prop 3 (at your local voting booth)**  
—7:00AM-8:00PM  
Elementary Faith Formation—5:00PM  
Elementary Faith Formation—6:30PM
- ◆ **Wednesday, November 9**  
Mass—9:00AM  
Intercessory Prayer Group—7:00PM
- ◆ **Thursday, November 10**  
Elementary Faith Formation—4:30PM
- ◆ **Saturday, November 5**  
Reconciliation—3:00PM  
Mass—4:30PM  
Bake Sale—5:30PM
- ◆ **Sunday, November 6**  
Mass—8:30AM  
Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale—9:30AM  
Mass—11:30AM  
Middle School Faith Formation—7:00PM  
7th Grade Parent/Student Meeting—7:00PM

## All Souls Remembrance

### November 2021

Beatrice Gosine  
Francesca Mary Spina  
Maurine D. Brennan

### December 2021

Marian Urban  
Mary Hrynik  
Ernesto Tuazon

### March 2022

Janet Kellett

### April 2022

William Dine  
Dennis Bernard Dubay

### June 2022

Louis Polsinelli  
Peter Edward Sikaitis

Praying for  
those buried  
from Saint  
Thomas More  
within the  
past year.

*The souls of the righteous  
are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall  
touch them.*

Wisdom 3:1

### July 2022

Carol Kubicz  
Thomas J. Johnson

### August 2022

Rose Beuthien  
Barbara Maronek  
Robert Cosgrove  
Emily Jean Calkins  
Helen VanLoon

### September 2022

Elizabeth Toton

### October 2022

Charles P. Kleinsmith Jr.  
Deborah Marie Carryer

## THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND BAKE SALE IS BACK!

### BAKE SALE

Nov 12th  
5:30pm  
Nov 13th  
9:30am

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Nov 13th  
9:30am-1pm



## St. Thomas More Book Club



The Book Club selection for November is *The German Wife* by Kelly Rimmer.

This is a novel, inspired by the true story of a secret US intelligence program that employed former Nazis after WW2 for the US space program.

Please join us Tuesday 11/15 at 10AM in Room 2 for the discussion.



Conversation with Catholic men...

Join the discussion!

Monday, November 7th @ 7:00pm

Church Conference Room

(End of Sacristy Hallway)

## Senior Thanksgiving Lunch

Thursday, November 17, 2022 at Noon

Theme- “What are you *thankful for?*”

Serving- Chicken Pot Pie, Salad,  
Holiday Sides and Pumpkin Pie!

RSVP to STM Office by November 14<sup>th</sup>.



## UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

### EVANGELIZATION

#### Against “*Against-ism*”

by John Hannigan

“Against-ism” is a tendency for people to define their views, and more so the views of people with whom they disagree, by what they are *against*, not what they are *for*. In these last days before the election, *against-ism* is rampant in the airwaves, internet and slick political flyers that fill our mailboxes. Pro-Choice (‘anti-life’?) activists accuse Pro-Life advocates as being ‘anti-abortion,’ of course, but they also claim we are against women, against freedom and against health care. This *against-ism* grossly misconstrues Pro-Life views.

To be Pro-Life means to believe, as our Catechism puts it, that “*human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception*” (CCC ¶2270). Contrary to ads favoring Proposal 3, Pro-Life is *for* helping women and children in difficult circumstances, materially, socially and spiritually. Pro-Life is *for* parents’ rights to know and decide about their children’s health and development. Pro-Life is *for* treating women for miscarriages or ectopic pregnancies, procedures which are not elective, procured abortion. Pro-Life is *for* the freedom to be born, regardless the circumstances of any pregnancy, for “*from the first moment of existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life*” (CCC ¶2270).

Some say “you can’t legislate morality” but every law legislates morality. While no law can change hearts, when *Roe* was decided in 1973, people learned abortion, since legal, must be “good.” The law changed moral views. Depending on what voters say Tuesday, we may learn that abortion, sterilization, etc., have become, in law, unfettered “fundamental rights” for all “individuals,” even minors. This would make it a greater challenge to turn people’s hearts towards life. If Proposal 3 is rejected, we will learn at least that citizens want greater clarity and limitations in laws about abortion and “reproductive freedom.” This will make it a greater challenge to support women and children, as well as physicians and nurses, and to influence what legislation will follow.

Either way, Pro-Life Witnesses must continue to advocate *for* life from conception to natural death, *for* Moms in Need, *for* just laws, and *for* changing people’s hearts toward life.

Questions? Comments? [UnleashSTM@gmail.com](mailto:UnleashSTM@gmail.com)

## STEWARSHIP

### TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

#### Giving Thanks With Grocery Gift Cards

Everything Thanksgiving, parishioners at STM generously assist those in need. The Christian Service Commission is asking for grocery gift cards in lieu of food donations.

Gift cards, preferably in the amount of \$25, should be from Meijer, Kroger, or Hollywood Market. If you wish to give cash or write a check, please note on the envelope or on the check that is for “Thanksgiving Basket Donation.”

Your generosity will assist needy families at St. Damien of Molokai Parish in Pontiac and Morse Elementary School in Troy, as well as families helped by our own St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Collection begins this weekend and continues through the weekend of November 12/13.

Please use the donation box by the Thanksgiving display in the Gathering Area or leave at the Parish Office. For questions, please contact the parish office.



**Thank you for your continued support  
of those less fortunate in our community.**

## Faith & Fellowship

### HIGH SCHOOLERS



Join us Sunday evenings (7-8:15PM) starting November 6<sup>th</sup> for our first small group series of the year: Youth Alpha! At Youth Alpha, you can ask absolutely anything. It is a chance to discuss the more meaningful questions of life alongside your peers. A snack and dessert will be provided!

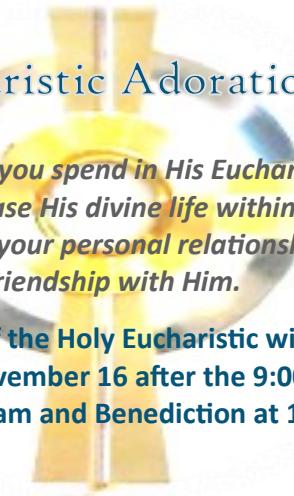
Come this weekend, November 6<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate the fall weather with cider and doughnuts. Meet in the Youth Room at St. Thomas More (Rms. 4 and 6 down the Faith Formation hallway).

The series continues November 13<sup>th</sup>

## Eucharistic Adoration

*Each moment that you spend in His Eucharistic Presence  
will increase His divine life within you  
and deepen your personal relationship and  
friendship with Him.*

**Exposition of the Holy Eucharist will be on  
Wednesday, November 16 after the 9:00 am Mass.  
Rosary @ 11 am and Benediction at 12 noon.**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Put a SPARK back in your marriage this Christmas Season**

January 13-15, 2023  
in Farmington Hills, Mi

800-470-2230  
**HelpOurMarriage.Org**

**DETROIT PRIESTLY VOCATIONS**

**Discernment Group**

Wednesday, November 9, 2022  
7:00 - 8:30pm

Please contact our office for more info:  
[detroitpriestlyvocations.com/discernment-groups/](http://detroitpriestlyvocations.com/discernment-groups/)

### A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR CONTINUED

So during this month of November, remember those you loved and who had such an effect on your life. Ask them to help you through the journey of life by their prayers for you when they enter into God's Kingdom.

Together let us ask the Lord to strengthen and confirm us in faith, in hope, and in love, so that we may bring His peace to one another and one day stand united with all the Saints and Angels who praise God eternally.

Have a wonderful week. Please find a place for me in your prayers.

Msgr. Thomas Rice

## PARISH DIRECTORY

### ST. THOMAS MORE

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH

4580 Adams Rd  
Troy, MI 48098

#### PARISH OFFICES

Main Office:  
248-647-2222

Faith Formation Office:  
248-647-4680

Fax:  
248-647-8192

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p
Sunday	8:30 a
	11:30 a
Wednesday	9:00 a
Holy Days:	9:00 a
	7:00 p

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 p

#### HOURS

Monday - Thursday

9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Closed: 12:30 to 1:00 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 9:30a-12p

#### EUCARISTIC ADORATION

[inquiry@stmoffice.com](mailto:inquiry@stmoffice.com)  
[www.stthomasmoretroy.org](http://www.stthomasmoretroy.org)

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Thomas G. Rice, **Pastor**  
248-647-2222 x. 1111

#### Weekend Mass Assistance

Father 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 [dcmichael@stmoffice.com](mailto:dcmichael@stmoffice.com)

#### COORDINATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Curtis Schuelke  
248-647-4680 x. 5522 [curtis@stmoffice.com](mailto:curtis@stmoffice.com)

#### PARISH OFFICE

Rob Leonardi, **Business Manager**  
248-647-2222 x 3333

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

Kathy Strong, **Parish Secretary/Bulletin**  
248-647-2222 x. 3311 [kathy@stmoffice.com](mailto:kathy@stmoffice.com)

#### FAITH FORMATION

Josylin Mateus, **Director**  
248-647-4680 x.5533 [josylin@stmoffice.com](mailto:josylin@stmoffice.com)

Astrid Janicke, **Faith Formation Secretary**

248-647-4680 x.5544 [ffsecretary@stmoffice.com](mailto:ffsecretary@stmoffice.com)

#### MAINTENANCE

Pete Whiting 248-647-2222 x. 4422