

Saint Thomas More

Catholic Church



March 22, 2020

Liturgy Schedule

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM

DAILY MASSES: 7:30 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursdays – 4:30 PM • Saturdays - 8:15 AM

DEVOTION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Monday - 12:01 AM through Saturday 4:00 PM

ROSARY

Daily - 7:00 AM

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Bulletin items are due to the Parish Office by Monday at 4:00 PM. Please email your items to:
receptionist@thomasmorespokane.org.

505 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, Washington 99208 • Tel: 466-3811 • thomasmorespokane.org

ST. THOMAS MORE

Website: www.thomasmorespokane.org

March 15, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Parish Staff

Phone	466-3811
Pastor	
Fr. Pat Kerst	Ext. 208
Parish Deacons	
Deacon Douglas Banks	Ext. 204
Deacon Tom Heavey	
Office Staff	
Jennifer Siira, Business Manager	Ext. 201
John Oss, Music Director	Ext. 200
Traci Loewen, Bulletin Editor	Ext. 200
Jim Huss, Receptionist	Ext. 200
Alexis Ferrante, Religious Ed. Coord.	
Tracy Acker, Sacramental Prep Coord.	
J.J., Nazzaro, Youth Ministry Coord.	

School Staff

Phone:	466-3811
Doug Banks, Principal	Ext. 204
Jim McCollum, Interim Principal	
& Student Affairs VP	Ext. 315
Maureen Durham, Academic VP	Ext. 326
Mary Heavey, Secretary	Ext. 313
Jen Siira, Preschool Director	Ext. 201



"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very

special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture. Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?



Due to the Coronavirus Outbreak and the sanctions from our President, Governor, and Bishop, most Parish events/meetings have been **cancelled** at STM including:

- **All Daily and Weekend Masses**
- Rosary Makers
- Shawl Ministry
- Altar Society
- Knights of Columbus meetings and activities including Ham Bingo
- Wednesday Game Day
- 8th Grade Play
- Sacramental Prep Classes (Confirmation is postponed)
- Religious Education Classes
- Communal Penance Service on 4/1
- Lenten Morning of Reflection on 4/4
- School until 4/24
- School Masses

Most Diocesan events have been **cancelled including:**

- All events at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center through April
- Chrism Mass at the Cathedral scheduled for 3/31 (Closed to the Public)
- Various parish Altar Society Card Parties

The following activities are still happening (at this time, call first):

- Adoration
- Taize Prayer on April 7 at 7:00 PM
- Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:30

Please know that events and restrictions are ongoing and ever changing. **Everything is subject to change.**

The diocese is committed to helping victims/survivors of sexual abuse and to protecting children and vulnerable adults. Volunteers who supervise other volunteers who work with minors and vulnerable adults **are required to report** any suspected abuse by others they supervise. Contact: Roberta Smith, Victims Assistance Coordinator (509) 353-0442 Office Phone or (509) 998-8340 Cell.

You may also go to the Diocesan website.

<http://www.dioceseofspokane.org/safe-environment>.



CHURCH SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Go to our parish website to fill out the proper paperwork. After we receive your information, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment.

Marriage: To schedule an appointment for marriage preparation, please contact a parish priest at least four months in advance of your desired wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: Call the Parish Office to request a priest. If the call is after hours, you will be prompted on how to proceed.

TIME Talent Treasure

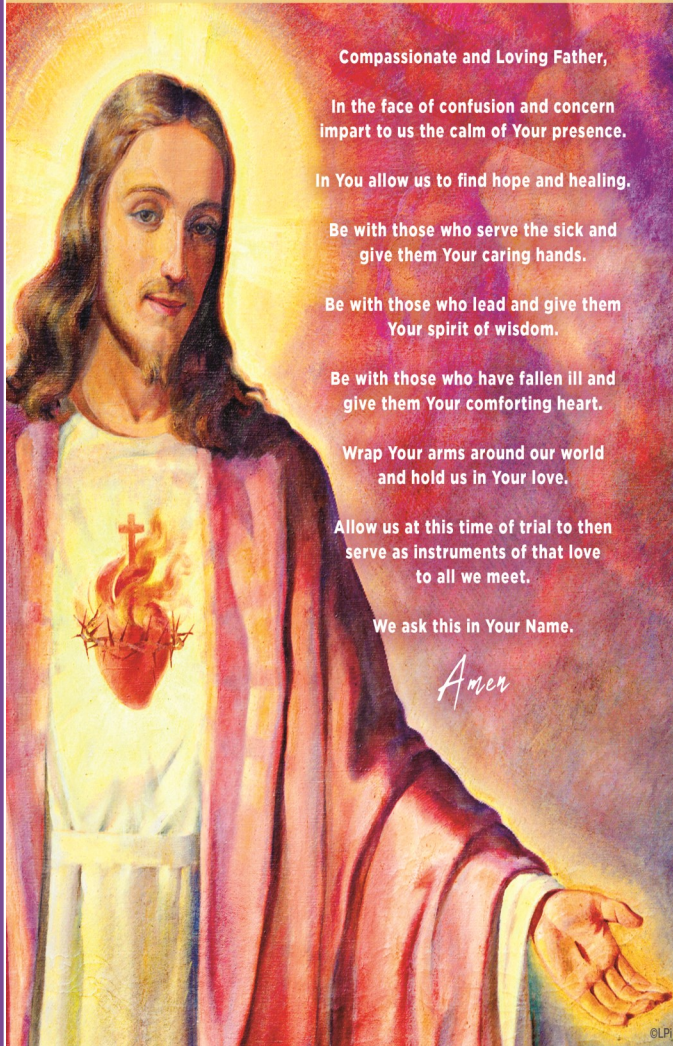
Stewardship

	Budget YTD	Received YTD
Income	\$435,472.00	\$485,373.00
Needed Weekly:	\$12,808.00	
Received 3/08:	\$12,238.00	

(figures unavailable at press time.)

Remember in Your Prayers

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



"Put His Will in Your Will" Clause for Christian Will

I give, devise, and bequeath to St. Thomas More Catholic Parish-Spokane, a Washington non-profit corporation (description of gift).

Dear Parishioners:

We are doing our best to keep you all informed about the current state of affairs in our parish and diocese. Things seem to change almost hourly. We will send out emails and Flocknotes as new information becomes available.

If we do not have your email, please let us know what it is. The fastest and easiest way for us to contact you is through Flocknotes. If you are not signed up for Flocknotes please consider signing up now. There are two easy ways to connect (pick one).

1. Visit our Parish at: www.flocknote.com/StThomasMoreParish

Or

2. Text StThomasMore to 84576 from your cell phone.

You can opt out of this at any time by texting "STOP" to 84576.

Also, please remember that while we are all going through these difficult times, our parish still needs to pay our bills to keep the lights on and the doors open. We are asking you to keep sending in your weekly donations. Please mail your contributions to the Parish Office.

Our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry has seen a big increase in the calls for help due to people losing their jobs and being unable to pay rent, feed their families, or get gas. Please consider giving a donation to this ministry. These are difficult times for everyone. The STM parishioners always step up and help those less fortunate. Thank you for your continued help and generosity.

Please pray for those who are ill and in need in our parish and elsewhere.

We will keep you updated as best we can.

-St. Thomas More Staff



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SPOKANE

Office of the Bishop

March 17, 2020

Dear friends in Christ,

I am writing to you in what may be the most difficult Lenten season we will ever see. In the last 24 hours, we have witnessed emergency declarations from government officials which now call for severe restrictions on public gatherings. I take seriously my responsibility to care for all the souls in the 13 counties of Eastern Washington which make up the Diocese of Spokane. And thus, to date, I have resisted calls to limit public access to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. However, given the scope of the pandemic and the latest government prohibitions, I am requiring the following actions which will remain in place until Monday, April 6, 2020.

1. All public Masses are suspended and everyone remains dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Priests are to offer private Mass for their people on a daily basis and, to the extent possible, livestream the Mass on the web. I will offer Mass at the Cathedral this coming Sunday at 9:00 a.m. which will be livestreamed on the parish and diocesan websites.
2. The Chrism Mass previously scheduled for March 31st at 5:15 p.m. is closed to the public. It will be broadcast via livestream on the diocesan website.
3. Funerals rites are limited to graveside committals, unless attendance at the Vigil/Mass does not exceed 10 people.
4. The Sacrament of Penance should continue to be available to the faithful while observing social distancing requirements.
5. Churches should remain unlocked, to the extent possible, for the faithful to make individual private visits to the Blessed Sacrament.
6. The faithful are encouraged to join me in a voluntary fast on Fridays with the intention of ending this pandemic.

Prior to Monday, April 6th, the diocese will announce any changes to these measures in light of developments with the pandemic.

This letter gives me the opportunity to point out that the Catholic Church has always been on the forefront of responding to crisis, disease, and plague. Our extensive Catholic healthcare system in the Diocese of Spokane as well as Catholic Charities of eastern Washington bear witness to this legacy. I am grateful for the ways in which the Church attempts to care for both body and soul at this difficult time.

Sadly, in response to the mandatory national quarantine in France, it was announced today that the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes has closed for the first time in history. Although access to both the grotto and the celebration of the Mass have been disrupted, the prayers of Our Lady of Lourdes, patroness of the Diocese of Spokane, remain as powerful as ever. Just as God has granted countless healings through her intercession in the past, may we receive that same healing today.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Live Jesus in our hearts, forever.

In Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas A. Daly, D.D.
Bishop of Spokane



Knights' Corner

All Knights' Meetings and Activities are cancelled through the end of the month.



Coffee & Donuts

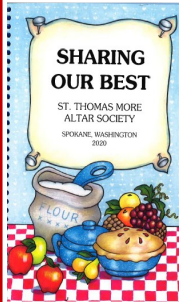
Coffee and donuts cancelled through April 12.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Altar Society Card Party and Raffle. We appreciate our hard-working volunteers! It was a huge success!

Altar Society Cookbooks

Our Altar Society has gathered recipes from all of its members and has compiled a cookbook. Books are \$10 each and would make great gifts for Easter or Mother's Day. Books are available in the Parish Office.



Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

- ♦ **Mother's Day Brunch**, 17th Annual Champagne Bruch, 5/10, \$35 adults, \$15 children, reservations requested
- ♦ **Weekend Manuscript Illumination Retreat**, 5/29-31, \$240, Hannah Charlton
- ♦ **Free Weeklong Work Retreat: "Grant Success to the Work of Our Hands"**, 6/1-5, Fr. Savelesky
- ♦ **12-Step Recovery Weekend Retreat for Men and Women, "Recovery and the Mysteries of Faith"**, Fr. Vogt, 6/5-7
- ♦ **Catholic Home School Mom Retreat, "Cause of Our Joy"**, 8/14-15, Leila Miller and Fr. Gaines.

Call the IHRC at 448-1224 to register for any of the above events.

MAGNIFICAT to Give the Faithful Complimentary Access to its Entire Online Edition

During this difficult time, many of the faithful across the United States and all around the world may be unable to attend Sunday or weekday Mass. As a service to the Church and to help the faithful sanctify their day, MAGNIFICAT has announced its decision to provide temporary [complimentary access to its online versions](https://www.magnificat.com/free) of the daily prayer resource throughout the world, including in English: www.magnificat.com/free and Spanish: www.magnificat.com/gratis.

MAGNIFICAT President Romain Lizé noted, "When you are used to going to Mass regularly, it can be spiritually difficult and frustrating when you cannot attend because of sickness or out of caution. We are honored to make this resource available to keep everyone united with the Church and to sanctify their day as it offers all the texts of Mass and prayers inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours."

[Access to its online edition](https://www.magnificat.com/free) is being given to help the faithful pray with MAGNIFICAT in union with the Church each Sunday and weekday. Mr. Lizé added, "We are committed to making this resource available for as long as it takes to get this situation under control. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to pray with us for a speedy and safe end to this time of difficulty in our world."

Attention Parishioners: This is a reminder to not leave valuables in your cars during Mass! There was a car broken into during the 9:00 Mass recently, and a purse was stolen. The thieves got into their car by breaking the window.



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Thank you for sponsoring. My life has been changed
- Aaron Teo

Thank you so much for sponsoring the retreat! It was a great growing experience for all of us!
- Emily

Thank you so much for your spiritual and financial support of our fellowship! We have been able to grow in our faiths because of you!
- Nicole

Thank you so much! Your contributions allow us to have amazing experiences
- Evelyn

God bless!
- Aaron Teo

St. Thomas More,
Thank You!

- Whitworth Catholic Fellowship

Thank you for sponsoring the retreat St. Thomas More, it has helped me become closer to God!
- Nicholas St. Thomas



Please pray for those who are ill in our Parish and for those who are dying or who have died. Never doubt the power of prayer! If you would like to add someone to our prayer chain, call

Mary at 466-0531 or
Pat at 466-3163.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Week of March 23:

Mon.	7:30	A.M.	Deceased Members of Pham Family
Tue.	7:30	A.M.	Lynn Jay Cubknell
Wed.	7:30	A.M.	Hugh Gustafson
Thur.	7:30	A.M.	Barbara Monks
Fri.	7:30	A.M.	Charles Miller
Sat.	7:30	A.M.	Dick Pelkie
	4:30	P.M.	Michael Bold
Sun.	7:30	A.M.	Pam Lane
	9:00	A.M.	Vicky Feldscher
	11:00	A.M.	Pennie Bloom
	7:00	P.M.	

ADORATION

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta has stated, "The fruit of silence is Prayer, the fruit of prayer is Faith, the fruit of faith is Love,...the fruit of love is Service, the fruit of service is Peace." St. Padre Pio's words, "Confide your needs to Him, along with those of others."

At the present time, we are trying our best to keep the Adoration Chapel open for those who wish to come in and pray before the Eucharist. Understandably, many of our volunteers have had to cancel their hour during this time of illness.

Please consider taking an hour or two during the week to help staff the chapel.

Now, more than ever, we are in need of prayer before the blessed sacrament.

Call Sue at 467-0671 if you can help.

Lenten Rules For Fast and Abstinence

Fasting is required for those between the ages of 18 to 59 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. A proper fast means only one full meal a day with other meals limited. Abstinence from meat is required for everyone 14 and older on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays in Lent and Good Friday.

Looking for ways to reflect during Lent?

- ◆ **Flocknotes:** Sign up to receive a daily text and/or email with Lenten Reflections
- ◆ **Word on Fire:** Visit our website to view a daily video from Bishop Barron
- ◆ **Formed:** Check out the Formed daily reflections, activities for your family, movies, videos, and more.
Parish Code: 6HR79H



Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays during Lent at 6:30 PM in the church. Walk the path with our Lord through his passion and death and come once again to know of his love for you.
(May be cancelled, call first.)

Taize Prayer

(may be cancelled, call first)

Thursdays in the Church:

April 2

7:00 PM

Please remember, while you are unable to attend Sunday Mass or attend your regular Lenten Services, you can watch live stream on the internet, EWTN, Fox Channel 3 at 6:30 AM, IHRC broadcasts at noon and 5:00 PM on Cable Channel 14.



Parents choose St. Thomas More for their children, because of high academic standards, value-added education and a safe environment.



St. Thomas More is the only school in Spokane with:

- An integrated C+STEM program with curriculum that spirals through all grades
- A four day Outdoor Education program at a Washington Environmental Learning State Park
- A comprehensive Christian Living Curriculum that includes four 7th and 8th grade retreats
- Grades 6-8 Spanish Program
- An active partnership with Catholic Charities Spokane that inspires students to serve their community.

Schedule your campus tour with Principal Doug Banks today!

509-466-3811

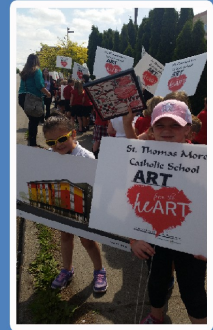
dougbanks@thomasmorespokane.org
www.goSTM.org

Prepare for High School and Beyond



Historically 96% of our graduates enter a college or university. Your child will be equipped to adapt to the constantly changing world through experiential learning and problem solving.

Build Social Responsibility



While not all STM students are Catholic, all practice compassion, justice, and respect for life and human diversity on campus and through outreach in the local community.

STM Come See The Difference

Find Fun and Acceptance



In the safe environment of STM, your child will be free to explore their unique gifts, talents, and potential. We focus on growth of the whole person - spiritually, physically, intellectually, and socially.

Join a Caring and Supportive Community



STM nurtures both students and parents. Caring for one another and appreciating the unique gifts and talents of students and families creates deep bonds in our community.



St. Thomas More Weather Station

As part of our C+STEM program, we had added a true NOAA official weather station here at STM. Students are gathering data and making charts—but you, too, can benefit from seeing firsthand what the weather is at St. Thomas More at the touch of your phone app!

Download the **Weatherlink App (by Davis)** to your android or apple device and the weather, right from our very own parish school, will be at your fingertips! Our weather station's handle is: "STMweather99208"



Need Help With Your Spring Cleaning?
Don't forget about our 8th Graders who are now busy earning money for their DC trip this May. If you need help with cleaning or yard work, contact Jennifer Onzay at:
STMDCTRIP@gmail.com

