

Saint Thomas More

Catholic Church



May 17, 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 thru 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.

All Suspended

ST. THOMAS MORE

Website: www.thomasmorespokane.org

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 VPExt. 315
 Maureen Durham, Academic VP.Ext. 326
 Mary Heavey, SecretaryExt. 313
 Jen Siira, Preschool Director.....Ext. 201

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:
 Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:17)

PSALM:
 Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Ps 66) or Alleluia.

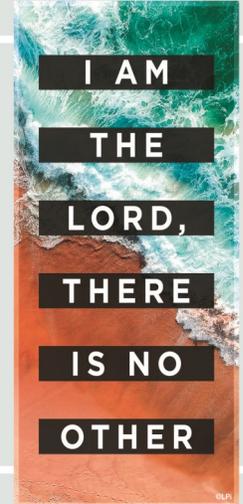
SECOND READING:
 For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18a)

GOSPEL:
 "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live." (Jn 14:18-19)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, 2020

Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter
 Monday: St. John I, Pope and Martyr
 Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
 Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses); St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
 Friday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
 Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day



REFLECT

FIRST READING
 In Acts 2, Luke records how the Holy Spirit initially descended upon the Jewish believers in Jerusalem. In today's reading, we hear how the Holy Spirit also descended upon the Samaritans who believed in Jesus. What lesson do you think Luke is conveying to us?

SECOND READING
 Peter advocates for being prepared to defend the faith, even in the face of danger. How does one find the courage to defend the faith in a hostile environment?

GOSPEL READING
 Jesus reveals to his disciples that the intimacy between himself, the Holy Spirit, and the Father can be shared with fellow believers. How do you experience the intimacy of our triune God?

"WE BECOME WHAT WE LOVE
 AND WHO WE LOVE SHAPES
 WHAT WE BECOME."

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

6th Sunday OF EASTER



"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you."

-Jn 14:15-17

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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.)		

Prayer During an Epidemic

Lord Jesus,

Hear our pleas, our Good Shepherd and Divine Physician. We implore your mercy in the wake of an outbreak of serious illness and disease.

Guide our efforts to prevent contagion and make preparations to care for those most vulnerable. Assist all professionals and volunteers who work to eradicate the epidemic now spreading. May our actions be marked by our steadfast love and selfless service and never by panic or fear.

Bestow your comfort and healing to the sick, sustain and strengthen them by your grace. May they know your closeness as they carry the cross of illness. And may all who have been called from this life come to worship you eternally with all the saints as you grant consolation and peace to their mourners. Amen

Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, pray for us.
St. Rocco, protector against epidemics, pray for us.

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. You can also donate online by going to our parish website. **We have updated this feature, and it is now easier to make recurring donations (weekly or monthly) with your credit card or bank account.**

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

"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).

Reminders:

We are encouraged to pray for an end to the COVID-19 threat:

- On Fridays, we are invited to join Bishop Daly in fasting.
- We are invited to join Pope Francis to pray the Rosary daily during the month of May, praying that our Blessed Mother intercede before God for us.
-

Mass from STM will air Sunday at 8:30 am, via the parish website

****Thanks for your on-going financial donations to the parish!**

The church will be open Saturdays, from 9-10 am, if you are out on an “essential task” and would like to stop by and sign the R-90 petition, located on a table in the Narthex of the church.

We are now in Phase 1 of the state’s “re-opening” approach. In this phase, “Drive in spiritual services” are allowed. There is still discernment of what this might mean for Mass celebrated in a dignified way (there may be a “phased in” approach to this in the coming weeks- it seems that there is no permissible way to offer Communion in such services at this point). What is significant in this is that “Spiritual Services” are now deemed “essential,” so that people may leave their homes for them. Another provision for this is that people not leave their cars; this envisions that there are a number of groups of people in cars, and there would be a danger of “bottle necking” or tight grouping if people left their cars for, for instance, a Communion rite. In light of this, our bishop has interpreted that it might be possible for the public offering of the Sacrament of Reconciliation without violating the spirit of this law. The “drive by” individual Confession, while possible, is not optimal given the difficulty of assuring confidentiality and the uncertainty of weather. But given the likelihood that there would not be a large gathering of cars/groups if Confessions were available at a parish, perhaps they could be held in a room in the church, in which individuals could leave their car to enter for the Sacrament, maintaining social distancing and observing hygiene rules. In light of this, we are offering this:

SATURDAY, WHILE THE CHURCH IS OPEN FROM 9-10 AM, THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PAC. IF YOU CHOOSE TO COME, PLEASE REMAIN DISTANT FROM OTHERS WHO MAY COME FOR THE SACRAMENT (WAITING IN LINE). GO THROUGH THE DOORS THAT ARE HELD OPEN TO THE NARTHEX AND TO THE PAC. WAIT OUTSIDE THE PAC, AT LEAST 6 FEET APART FROM OTHERS. PLEASE WEAR A MASK. DO NOT ENTER THE PAC UNTIL THE PERSON IN FRONT OF YOU HAS LEFT.

The bishop sent out a link for contacting our state government (see the Flocknote from May 6) to express the importance of the practice of our faith to our elected leaders, as they continue to strive to respond to COVID-19 in the safest, most prudent way. Please consider this, exercising your faithful citizenship by letting your voice be heard in light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Knights' Corner

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



Coffee & Donuts
Coffee and donuts cancelled til further notice .



Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

- ◆ **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."

Remember in Your Prayers
ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.
Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you."
- Jn 14:15-17

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Referendum 90

St. Thomas More will have petitions in our Narthex (by the baptismal font) to gather signatures while still maintaining safe social practices. Our doors will be open from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday-Friday, so if you are out doing other essential business, you can stop by. Items to remember:

- Please use your elbow on the handicap button to enter and exit
- Bring your own pen
- Use the provided hand sanitizer before and after signing



PRAYER REQUEST

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.



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."

Adoration is closed until Further Notice

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Week of May 17:

Sun.	STM Parishioners
Mon.	
Tue.	Karl Schmid
Wed.	Maria Pedroso
Thur.	Evelyn Johnson
Fri.	Karl Schmid
Sat.	Pam Charter
Sun.	STM Parishioners



Please pray for the repose of the souls of those recently buried from St. Thomas More:

Karl Schmid
Bradley Honner
Conner Flynn

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

We hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope.

When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent: all that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that he truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ's promises and don't rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God's promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God's greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence.



As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don't carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do.

Please remember, while you are unable to attend Sunday Mass you can watch Mass from STM at 8:30 AM via our website, or live stream from the Cathedral at 9:00 AM, or on TV on EWTN, Fox Channel 3 at 6:30 AM, IHRC broadcasts at noon and 6:00 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
doubanks@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.



May Crowning

On Monday, May 18, between the hours of 10 AM and 6 PM, you can drive by the Statue of Mary and see our 8th grade prayers—they will be posted around the statue on placards, see that Mary has been crowned and adorned with flowers, hear the music playing from the bells of our church, and, if you are able to "drive by" we are asking as an offering in lieu of flowers, that you bring one of the following items that is greatly needed by our food bank: dry cereal, hamburger helper, pasta, top ramen, spaghetti sauce (can), pork n beans, chili