

**WEEKEND
MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

**DAILY
MASS SCHEDULE**
WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18
Monday thru Friday
5:15 p.m.

RECONCILIATION
Saturday and Sunday
5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**No Reconciliation
September 20**

**STUDENT
HOLY HOUR**
Thursday
6:00 p.m.

HOLY HOUR
Friday
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC STUDENT PARISH

421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo | Phone 269-381-8917

Parish Office located at 1333 W. Lovell St, Kalamazoo, MI 49006
email: sttoms@sttomskazoo.org website: www.sttomskazoo.org
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Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT — We, the people of St. Thomas More Parish, gifted and led by the Holy Spirit, are called to build up the kingdom of God among the college communities of Kalamazoo. Diverse, yet one, we are called to be the Body of Christ, to praise and worship our Heavenly Father, to proclaim God's Word, to love and serve others, especially the poor and neglected. We welcome all into our parish family who wish to share in this mission.

RCIA/OCIA

RCIA/OCIA GATHERINGS

Inquiry gatherings have begun for RCIA/OCIA. So, what does that mean? RCIA/OCIA is the process of initiation and formation for adults entering the Catholic Church. We begin that process with group discussions that answer participants questions so that they have a better understanding of what we believe and how we live our lives as Catholics.

If you have been joining us for Mass for a while, you may have questions about what we are doing or things that you have heard about Catholics. You may want to join us to find out what the Church teaches. If you have never been baptized or been baptized in another Christian denomination, and would like to be in full communion with the Catholic Church, you may want to find out about the sacraments of initiation and how you join our community. If you have been baptized Catholic but have not received first Eucharist and/or Confirmation, you may want to know more about receiving the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

We will be meeting Sunday September 17 at 7 PM in the Cougar Room to discuss questions that you may have about Catholicism and Our Images of God.

Contact Fr. Paul (frpaul@sttomskazoo.org) or Claire McSwiney (claire.mcswiney@att.net) for handouts ahead of the Sunday gathering.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE — Unable to forgive another, means we are holding onto a past wrong and hoping for a better past. That is not going to happen. We must move on with our life by accepting we were unjustly treated and it will not be corrected. We aren't condoning the injustice. We just don't let it control our lives any longer. Forgiveness is critical to living a healthy life in the present.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 — Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian
6:00 p.m. †Mark and Jonathan Cook by Vic & Barb Ceru

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 — Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 a.m. †Jean Homola by Theresa Jacobson
10:30 a.m. People of the parish
6:00 p.m. †Catherine Basso by family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
5:15 p.m. †Jean Homola by Ron & Ellen Partee

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 — St. Januarius
5:15 p.m. Sick and shut-ins of our parish family

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 — Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang
5:15 p.m. Bishop Edward Lohse

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 — St. Matthew
5:15 p.m. Men and women serving in the military

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
5:15 p.m. Mayr Family (living)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 — St. Pius of Pietrelcina
6:00 p.m. †Hank Darragh by Jim & Mary Grace

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 — Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 a.m. People of the parish
10:30 a.m. †Wasylyna Hordynskij by Maria Holian
6:00 p.m. †Robert Cimmino by Ertl family

SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of Sept. 17

Sunday Sir 27:30 – 28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35
Monday 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday 1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Mt 9:9-13
Friday 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

BAPTISM — Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION — Couples planning to marry within the next year need to attend a marriage prep meeting.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR BOTH CLASSES

To register or for more information call the parish office at 269-381-8917 or email sttoms@sttomskazoo.org

FATHER PAUL'S POST

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



The theme of this week's readings is forgiveness. Maybe a good way to look at forgiveness is to see what unforgiveness does. If you look at many global events, many nations keep trying to get revenge on another nation for some real or imagined act of cruelty. Some "family feuds" have gone back centuries. Sadly, some people still live by the ancient principle of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." However, in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapter 6:38) Jesus states that we should no longer live by that rule. We can't hold on to hating and desire for revenge. We have to let go.

Refusing to forgive is a form of anger. It can be an anger we will not let go. The man in the parable refused to forgive his fellow servant may have been motivated by selfishness, or pettiness, or greed, or even by the thought of not letting anyone take advantage of him.

Whatever the reason, refusing to forgive is probably some form of pride. Sometimes we are treated badly.....very badly. We end up doing more harm to ourselves than to anyone else when we keep that anger alive in us. It had the potential to eat us up emotionally and maybe even physically. Jesus' suggestion to forgive is good not only spiritually but psychologically as well!

If we are struggling with forgiveness, it's always best to put Christ in the situation. Ask for His help, His guidance. Just remember the twelfth station of the cross. It's where Jesus dies on the cross. After being betrayed by a close friend, denied by another, his other best friends ran away. He was ridiculed and mocked, scourged, forced to carry a cross. He was mocked by one of the criminals as He was hung upon the cross. Yet, through all that, Jesus said, "Father forgive them. They know not what they do."

Have a blessed week! Peace, *FR. Paul*

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH



...AND
HOW NOT TO

**A practical and inspiring workshop
offered at St. Tom's
in the Social Hall**

Wednesday, September 20

6:00 - 6:30 heavy hors d'oeuvres
Workshop 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

A lively workshop on the fundamentals of evangelization with interactive experiences including:
reflecting on personal moments of encounter with Christ, getting to know others' stories,
and practicing how to share a brief witness story.



Led by Josh Dart of The Evangelical Catholic

DESIGNED FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS THROUGH ADULT

Please RSVP by September 18. FREE childcare provided for parents who RSVP.

Link to RSVP: <https://forms.gle/MYpywW7j4eVjfkfP6> or email Lisa@sttomskazoo.org

Josh Dart holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters of Arts in Theology from the Augustine Institute in Denver. After working simultaneously for several years as both a Project Manager and Youth Minister, he resigned from engineering to be fully devoted to the Church's evangelization efforts. Josh served as the Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), and has co-led and participated in over a dozen international missions in Central America, Australia, and Africa. He was introduced to the Evangelical Catholic through Evangelization Training Camps, and began fully implementing the EC vision when VCU became one of the university ministries in the Diocese of Richmond EC Alliance. This bore great fruit both in the campus ministry and his personal life. As an EC Lead Ministry Consultant, Josh trains parish and campus ministries to be the best at reaching the lost with the love of Jesus. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife and six children.



HERE AT ST. TOM'S

SUNDAY SUPPERS

The sign-up book is in the narthex for Sunday Supper cooks, helpers, and dessert makers. Suppers are served to our college students after 6:00 p.m. Mass. For more information email michele@sttomskazoo.org or call 381-8917, ext. 273



CHILDREN'S CHOIR starts on October 5th!

We will have rehearsals from 6-7 on Thursday evenings. Please see Michael for a syllabus and complete schedule

REACH, STRETCH, RELAX

Join us for group chair exercise class that targets balance, flexibility, range of movement and breathing. The class meets every Wednesday 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Cougar Room. This class is appropriate for "every body". Contact Matt Barretta at 343-7857 or 548-6837 for more information. **Class will not meet on Wednesday, September 20.**

YOGA

Experience the benefits of yoga every Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00-11:00 am in the Cougar Room. Reduce stress, improve awareness, posture, strength, balance and flexibility. Uniting body, mind and spirit with instructor Gena Pezzoli. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. Suggested donation of \$10 to help our Feminine Care Product Ministry. Make a note - No yoga on October 3.

CHECKPOINT-WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Women's Bible Study: Checkpoint as we discover the dignity of the women of the bible. This study runs through April 2024 in 22 weeks of exploration and self-discovery.

Thursday evenings 6:15 - 7:45 PM, IN-PERSON!!
Starting September 21, 2023.

Women of the Old and New Testaments were as flawed and broken as we can be, yet the power of God worked in their lives. *Discovering Our Dignity* will allow you to learn from their experiences and uncover ways to deal with unwanted circumstances and deferred hopes. Through their stories recorded in Scripture, women of the Bible reach out to touch our "present" in a tender, honest and loving way—woman to woman—with ancient wisdom, sage advice, and insights from sorrowful failures and emotional wounds. Learn how God worked in the lives of Biblical women:

- Sisters Leah and Rachel overcame jealousy when they learned that God offered all that they really needed
- Abigail's faith was so strong she didn't despair, no matter how unpleasant life was with her husband
- Deborah had been given grace by God to act as His prophet, for the good of her people Mary the Blessed Mother's "yes" to God—her fiat—changed everything. How else did her words and deeds influence Jesus, and vice-versa.

Cost for materials \$45.00. For questions and to register, please contact Larisa Rozins (lmrozins@gmail.com)

ATTENTION TO SENIOR (50+ YEARS!) WOMEN

Some of us at St. Tom's are looking to start a Social Group! Would you like to meet other women that go to St. Tom's? We would love to meet you! We are hosting a Meet-N-Greet on -----

Monday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m.
in the Cougar Room

Join us for this wonderful opportunity to get to know one another and think of some ideas for future activities and gatherings. A great way to form new friendships and try new things!

Please bring yourselves and ideas of things you might like to do.

Contact Nancy Buist for more information at njhbust@gmail.com
Hope to see you there!

PARISH VAN DRIVERS NEEDED

We are urgently looking for drivers to take students to the 6pm Sunday Mass starting in September.

We have a dozen students living on campus and just off campus who use the shuttle to get to Mass. If you would like to be part of the "Driving Rotation", Please contact the office 269-381-8917 or Lisa Heyduk: Lisa@sttomskazoo.org.



PET blessing

Outside here at St. Tom's in front of the church under the covered area.

Saturday, October 7 10:00 am

PLEASE HAVE YOUR PETS ON A LEASH OR IN A CRATE.

THANK YOU FOR DONATING BLOOD —

24 donors were registered - 22 units were collected. Our next blood drive will be Thursday, November 2, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Register at the link below

<https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/>



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GRIEF SHARE HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Are you grieving the death of someone and wondering how you will navigate the holidays this year? Join grief counselor Mary Beckley-Clark MSW on Sunday, November 19 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to learn some practical coping strategies. This workshop will include a video presentation and group discussion. Participants will also receive a copy of the Grief-Share Holiday Survival Guide.

FIRST FRIDAY AND SECOND FRIDAY MASSESON WMU'S CAMPUS

Join Fr. Paul for mass at 12:10 PM at Kanley Chapel every first and second Friday of the month through the academic year.

The dates for this semester are: October 6, October 13, November 3, November 10, December 1 and December 8.

No 5:15 p.m. Mass at St. Tom's on these dates.

Christmas Arts & Crafts Show

CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND CRAFTERS!

To reserve your space at
St. Tom's Arts & Crafts Show on
Saturday, November 11,
call or text
Russ Bronson, 561-891-0249

SOCIAL JUSTICE

RACISM IN OUR COMMUNITY: BUILDING A COMMON LANGUAGE

In 2023-2024, Race Matters programs will help us learn more about the impact of racism in our community. We will begin this fall by creating a common language. Register now for:

RACE MATTERS

*Building Our
Beloved
Community*

**Words that Shape Our Thoughts,
Monday, October 2, 7:00-8:30 pm,**

via Zoom or in person in the Cougar Room.

Racism. Bias. Prejudice. Discrimination.

What do these words mean? In this session, we will explore their definitions through instructional videos and small group discussions. We will come to a common understanding of the terms and why it is important to be clear about the definitions as we develop our narratives in the anti-racism movement.



TOILET PAPER MINISTRY

Toilet paper donations for those in need.

THE BACK DOOR OF THE OFFICE GARAGE IS OPEN
MONDAY — FRIDAY 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
OR BRING TO CHURCH WHEN YOU COME TO MASS

FOAM RECYCLING

Foam accepted at the parish garage only.

Either inside the garage or in the large brown bin
outside the door.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL FOAM IS CLEAN & FREE OF FOOD

SEPTEMBER 2023 SUNDAY COLLECTION

Target for September	56,604
9/3	6,972
9/10	8,723
9/17	
9/24	
Electronic gifts for September 2023	12,406
Total gifts to date for September 2023	28,101



COLLEGE STUDENT NEWS

MORE AT MIDWEEK — No Praise and Worship this week—join us for a whole parish workshop!

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH... and How NOT To

A practical and inspiring workshop,

Wednesday, September 20 6:00-6:30 heavy hors d'oeuvres and workshop 6:30-8:30 PM in the Social Hall.

A lively workshop on the fundamentals of evangelization with interactive experiences including: reflecting on personal moments of encounter with Christ, getting to know others' stories, and practicing how to share a brief witness story. Led by Josh Dart of The Evangelical Catholic.

Designed for middle schoolers through adult. Please RSVP by September 18. Free babysitting provided for parents who RSVP. Link to RSVP: <https://forms.gle/MYpywW7j4eVjfkfP6> or email Lisa@sttomskazoo.org

STUDENT HOLY HOUR

WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSION

in the Worship Space at St. Tom's on Thursdays 6-7 PM.

Life is rarely quiet, but it's quiet here. Listen to Jesus speak to your heart.



SMALL GROUPS/BIBLE STUDY

Our small groups bring college students together in an intimate setting to share life, pray with and for each other, and learn together about the teachings of Christ and how we live them on campus, among our friends and families. These are student lead and it costs nothing but your time and willingness to build these authentic friendships. They are about an hour a week for 6 sessions. Sign up after Mass this upcoming weekend or watch for a sign up link in the bulletin next week. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-wscZ-ycFSh7E9pP2BtcOT9PMeeih0RKxyKpE2sHbyWVHA/viewform?usp=sf_link



SUNDAY SHUTTLE ARE YOU A COLLEGE STUDENT WHO WOULD LIKE A RIDE TO SUNDAY MASS?

If so, please contact Lisa at lisa@sttomskazoo.org to get on the list for the Sunday Shuttle

SUNDAY SUPPERS

Sunday Suppers are a homemade meal hosted by our parishioners for college students in the Social Hall after the 6:00 PM Mass. Entree, salad, drinks, and desserts are served.

COLLEGE STUDENT RETREAT

Save the date now to retreat with other college students to Pretty Lake Camp in Mattawan, MI the weekend of November 10-12. More details about sign up, cost, and theme will be available in October. We will offer a 50% discount to students who register with the parish!

SOCIALS

Follow us on Instagram @KalamazooCatholic or sign up for our weekly email or GroupMe to get info on new events first. Email Lisa@sttomskazoo.org to subscribe to our weekly email. Our GroupMe texting group can be found here: https://groupme.com/join_group/89335085/4QjZw0gK

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or email: jingersoll@diocesan.com

The Sisters of St. Joseph
are currently inviting lay individuals to live with them in their residential complex at 2929 Nazareth Road in Kalamazoo.
Assisted living apartments are currently available.
For a tour contact Tammy Nelson, Marketing Director (269) 381-6290 or tnelson@csjoseph.org
www.csjinitiatives.org/kalamazoo

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