

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

MAY



PRAYER

Submitted by Rev. William Wagner,
Pastor

Prayer is an absolute must for all of us. It maintains the relationship we have with the Lord. The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it as "the raising of one's mind and

heart to God" while humility is its foundation. We often think of prayer as our search for God in our lives but ironically it is God who thirsts for us. He desires that relationship with us which is nourished by prayer.

We just completed a FORMED program throughout Lent entitled *Into the Desert Finding Intimacy With God*. The program is an introduction to Lectio Divina (Divine Reading), a traditional Catholic approach to prayer. Dr. Tim Gray of the Augustine Institute is our guide for the program. He explains the traditional stages of Lectio Divina:

1. **LECTIO** ~ A reading of a selection from the Bible
2. **MEDITATIO** ~ Seriously studying or considering the meaning of what we have read.
3. **ORATIO** ~ Conversation with God or prayer.
4. **CONTEMPLATIO** ~ God speaks to us;
5. **RESOLUTIO** ~ Living what we pray or putting love into action.

The program is found in FORMED.org. Go to <http://stthomasmore.formed.org>. The parish is a member of this service. You should see the registration box that says, "Does your parish already have FORMED. "Type in the parish code: 28YHKB (notice: case sensitive). Next set up a user name and a password. Now you are all set to use the great study programs on FORMED.org anytime by simply logging in!! Since Lent is now over it will take some hunting on the sight to locate this.

Developing good habits of prayer is essential to our way of life as followers of the Lord.

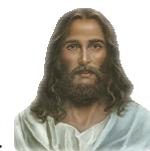
Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



Join us every Friday after the 8:30 am Mass until 3:00 pm for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

SEEK THE FACE OF GOD THIS SUMMER

Do you know what a Catholic understanding of the word study is?



Study is an occasion for the Spirit of truth to reveal the face of Jesus to us and conform our face - our eyes, our ears, our mouths - to His. The end is the blessed vision of God, "face to face."

Wow! Now that is real study with real Truth!

How best do we study as Catholics?

We all need to keep reading good and great books, watch good and great videos and keep learning our faith. We "graduate" from the academy of grace only when we die and turn our souls over to God.

The Doctors of the Church speak the fire of truth, which illumines and burns. Their writings enlighten our minds and burn away our compromises, our excuses, our pettiness.

The Pope's encyclicals open our understandings to many cultural challenges throughout the ages. Many are on line for free.

What is the sign that our studies to learn are leading us into greater intimacy with Jesus Christ, the Truth in person?

We will hear His words echoing in our hearts when the book or video is away. We will notice how, without being able to say when it came or where it came from, suddenly His light is cast on our problems or the problems of others with whom we live and work. We are carried by our studies into a more profound understanding of the mystery of Jesus Himself - the mysteries of His life, His death, His resurrection, all the mysteries of His humiliation and glory. This is called the healing grace of study.

When the Psalmist says, "Your face, O Lord, I shall seek," he is giving us a motto not only for the Christian life as a whole, but for the particular task of study.

Soon our summer vacation will begin. How about committing yourself to including some studying in your warm, summer days? Maybe even get the family to join you? Formed.org has a multitude of opportunities just waiting for you at their website and on our Community page. God is waiting for you to seek him more deeply. Seek His face and learn through studying this summer by visiting stthomasmore.formed.org.

~ Article submitted by Becky Ready

As I See It

Deacon Michael Thomas,
Pastoral Associate

We find ourselves within the Octave of Easter. Spring has arrived even with a little hint of snow. Memories of the Easter Vigil are foremost in the thoughts of our Elect. Another Lenten Season has come and gone. With the help of God's grace I hope we have all turned away from the sin in our lives and have become at least a little more faithful to the Gospel. In these past few months we have all been to many liturgies. I hope many of them have lifted you up spiritually. I know they have me.

Sometimes I think we overlook all the hours of preparation that goes into all of our worship here at Saint Thomas More.

When we arrive, we find the sanctuary all neat and clean thanks to Chris Conrady and her wonderful team of volunteers who clean and vacuum the church every Saturday morning. I would like to say a special word of thanks, to Jodi Bridges. Jodie, after many decades, has stepped down from leading this group. These dedicated people prepare our worship space for us to gather each weekend to celebrate the Sacred Mysteries of our Faith.

There are always candles to light, the altar is neat, altar clothes are fresh and clean and the sacristy is in good order. Flowers are kept fresh and watered, due to the tireless efforts of Alice Kortyka.

And of course the wonderful flower and liturgical decorations to aid in our prayer are designed and put up by many wonderful people on our arts and environment team. Karen Klysz and her group called Our Lord's Linen Ladies weekly washes and irons all the purificators, towels, altar cloths and server albs we use at Mass.

We certainly cannot forget our Ushers and Greeters who welcome us to all our Liturgies.

Also, our parish choirs, under the direction of Doug Stegeman. They worked countless hours preparing for all the Liturgies of Lent and Holy Week. There are more wonderful things coming throughout the Easter Season. Thank you one and all.

Finally, thanks to our parish altar servers and their parents who get them here and remind them of their assignments. We as a parish are grateful for all the help you give us not just at special times like Christmas and Easter. We need you every weekend, every Holy Day, for funerals, weddings, Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Perhaps when you see these people, especially those I didn't mention by name, thank them. For us they are the ones Jesus sends ahead to prepare the Passover Feast for us. Happy Easter to all! Jesus Christ is Risen!

Banns of Marriage

BANNS III: Samuel Easley and Megan Dixon
May 18, 2019 at St. Thomas More



A PRAYER FOR APPRECIATION OF EACH OTHER

We thank you, Father, for the gift of Jesus your Son who came to our earth and lived in a simple home. We have a greater appreciation of the value and dignity of the human family because he loved and was loved within its shelter. Bless us this day; may we grow in love for each other in our family and so give thanks to you who are the maker of all human families and our abiding peace.

From The Catholic Prayer Book, compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley



RACE WEBSITE

Additional race information can be found at <http://racedmc.com/schedule.html>.

PLACE

5900 Buckwheat Rd
Milford, OH US 45150

DESCRIPTION

Proceeds from the *Run For The Poor* helps the St. Vincent De Paul Society assist poor and marginal income families in Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Highland and Warren Counties in Southwest Ohio with food, utilities, rent, clothing, and the like. We are dedicated to be the hands, feet and hearts that provide these services on behalf of you, the participant, who is willing to give a small amount of your treasure to be with us on race day. There will be refreshments provided by First Watch (Harper's Station) and many door prizes (at least 100) donated by local merchants. Give us a try this year and we guarantee you will enthusiastically look forward to next year's event.

Race Registration Form can be found on our website at <https://sttm.org/> under News and Current Events on the Home Page.

WELCOME



NEW PARISHIONERS

Kyle Johnson

Richard & Constance Anish

Tom, Annette, Gannon & Erin McHugh

Amber Baker & Addyson Grow

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Emma Jane, daughter of David & Sarah Perlet

Ranessa Ann, daughter Ray & Barb Galvin

Noah Dominic, son of Jeremy & Ranessa Schulte

Paxton William, son of Dustin & Sandra Howe

Aralyn Faith, daughter of Jeremy & Ranessa Schulte

Olivia Jo, daughter of Paul & Nicole Sheehy

Cohen Isaiah, son of Jeremy & Ranessa Schulte

Ty Edward, son of Zachary & Lindsay Schmidt