

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



ST. THOMAS MORE MUSIC MINISTRY

is still looking for volunteers to join our ever-growing and improving program. We are particularly in need of singers for our 4:00 pm Mass. The

Sunday choir usually has an attendance of 15-20 singers, while the Saturday Mass only has about 5-8 singers regularly. Please consider joining our 4:00 pm ensemble, and see just how fun our music ministry is! Email dstegeman@sttm.org for more details!

As I See It

Deacon Michael Thomas,
Pastoral Associate



Happy Anniversary Deacon Fred Hass!

Forty-five years ago this past month, on September 25 and 26, the first permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati were ordained. Our own deacon Fred Hass was ordained by Archbishop Joseph Bernardin.

Thirty-nine men entered into Holy Orders that day. Because of the large number of men two ordination Masses were celebrated; one in Dayton at Immaculate Conception Church and the other at St Peter in Chains Cathedral where Deacon Fred was ordained.

They were the pioneers in the Archdiocese, they blazed the trail forty-five years ago for all of us who followed them. A large part of Deacon Fred's ministry has been with us here at Saint Thomas More.

We thank him and his wife Linda for all they have done for us and help us do. Deacon Fred, thanks for making us part of the "YES" you said to Jesus forty-five years ago. May you be blessed for being for us Jesus' servant. Ad multos annos.

From the Pastor

Rev. William Wagner



STANDING FOR COMMUNION

A number of years ago the Archbishop, through the Archdiocesan Worship Office, requested parishioners STAND during the distribution of Holy Communion until everyone had received. We have tried to implement that practice with some success. Now that more people are returning to Mass because of the relaxation of the pandemic guidelines it might be a good time to review what this is all about.

The Mass is a community prayer. We pray together as a community of faith. Holy Communion is not simply a personal prayer but also a corporate prayer; we receive the Lord individually as members of the Body of Christ. It is not just about "Jesus and me" but about "Jesus and all of us". We are in communion with Him and also with the entire Mystical Body of Christ, our baptized brothers and sisters in Christ. So to emphasize our union with Christ and with His Mystical Body, the baptized, the Archbishop has requested we stand during the distribution of Communion until all have received. Another good reason for doing this is that we are actually supposed to be singing the Communion Hymn which is a prayer of the Mass. All of our hymns are prayers and not just an unimportant extra. Skipping our participation in praying the hymn is skipping a real part of the Mass.

I do personally like this practice since it helps prevent us from seeing our brothers and sisters attending Mass with us as "distractions." People are not distractions. We do not get to heaven by ignoring people but by engaging them in faith. We are all created in God's image. Jesus Himself, when praying to His Father described other people as Gifts from the Father born from above. Communion is just what the word means i.e. unity with Christ and with each other.

The original idea was to stand while everyone is receiving together but I have notice some people sit when the communion line is finished while others wait until the Blessed Sacrament is retired to the Tabernacle as a further sign of respect for the Lord's special presence in the Eucharist.

None of this is meant to demean or lessen the importance of personal prayer. It is very important and necessary. There are many opportunities for personal and private prayer. Having received Communion does not mean Jesus disappears when communion is over. It means He is with us always throughout the day.

As Catholics we are individuals in solidarity with each other, as Pope St. John Paul II would say. Receiving Communion is also an act of solidarity or serious commitment to the Gospel. The sacrament takes us far beyond our personal individuality into the Body of Christ.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY
& SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
CINCINNATI • OHIO

SOLEMN VESPERS & CHORAL CONCERT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10TH AT 7:00 PM

Join Mount Saint Mary's as they kick off their 2021-22 Music & Liturgy Season on Sunday, October 10th. This is an opportunity to experience the special talents of The Athenaeum Chorale and Mount St. Mary's Latin Schola as they sing Solemn Vespers in the Chapel of St. Gregory the Great.

The event is open to the public and there is no admission cost.





NEW PARISH APP COMING SOON!

In the coming weeks St. Thomas More will launch our own app for iPhone and Android smart phones. This will allow us to better communicate with you throughout the week and keep you updated with relevant parish news or updates. The app is very well designed and very intuitive. It will be a great resource for parishioners by providing daily Mass readings, Catholic news and prayers, convenient prayer and Confession reminders, our bulletins and more.

We hope for our new app to be a tool for fostering stronger parish life at St. Thomas More and better engaging the New Evangelization.

Please watch in the coming weeks for our official launch announcement.

Catholic Life Every Day
— with the St. Thomas More App —

- Messages**
Easily connect all week
- Calendar**
Events, Locations, RSVP
- Readings**
Daily Readings from USCCB
- Prayers**
Set Reminders, Send Requests
- Bulletin**
Convenient mobile access

And Much More!

Download our app today!
Available for Apple and Android devices.

Text **App** to phone number **88202**, or visit **myparishapp.com** to download

NEW EVENT!!

WATCH PARTIES AT ST. THOMAS MORE THE CHOSEN SERIES

COME AND SEE OUR KICKOFF EVENT: OCTOBER 10TH

Join us Sunday, October 10, after the 10:00 am Mass to learn about our next Faith Formation Event!

We will be offering Watch Parties of the TV series, *The Chosen*!!

Director Dallas Jenkins's new original series, *The Chosen*, is revolutionary. It offers viewers a glimpse into what the daily and extraordinary life of Jesus Christ and his disciples might have looked like 2,000 years ago and invites the viewer into His story. Created outside of the Hollywood system, *The Chosen* allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew Him.

Come and register for whichever party matches your schedule:

- 2nd Sunday of each month after the 10:00 am Mass starting November 14th in the Parish Dining Hall.
- 3rd Wednesday of each month starting November 17th at 7:00 pm in the Faith Formation Room.
- 3rd Wednesday of each month starting November 17th at 7:00 pm online via Zoom.

For more information or to register on line go to www.sttmformation.org!



ALL SOULS MASS

Our annual parish celebration of **All Souls** will take place at the **4:00 pm Mass** on **Saturday, November 6, 2021**. Families of parishioners who have died and were buried from St. Thomas More in the past year have received a personal invitation. For those parishioners who have lost a loved one in the past year and whose funeral did not take place at St. Thomas More, but would like them remembered at the **All Souls Mass**, please call the parish office (753-2550) with the name of the person you wish to be remembered and a candle will be provided for them at the Mass. All RSVPs must be in to the parish office by Tuesday, October 26. Due to COVID, we will not be having a reception after the All Souls Mass.



WELCOME

NEW PARISHIONERS

Alana Henry

Matt, Brittany, Lucas & Noah Donaworth
Tyler, Sarah, Samuel & Benjamin Gangwer



NEWLY BAPTIZED

Emmett Lee, son of Steven and Ellen Tate



BAPTISMAL PREP CLASS

If you are anticipating having your child initiated into our Catholic community through the Sacrament of Baptism, you will need to have participated in a baptismal preparation program. Classes at this time are being done remotely. If you wish to attend a remote class, please call the parish office at 753-2550 to register.

