

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



4170 North Amber Drive | Brooklyn, Ohio 44144 | Phone: 216-749-0414 | Email: rectory@stmparish.net



Join our email list at stmparish.net/email

Mass Times

Weekend

Saturday - 4:30pm

Sunday - 9am & 11am

Weekdays

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday - 8:15am

Tuesday - 6:45pm

No Mass on Thursday

Holy Days

Eve - TBD

Holy Days - 8:15am, 11:15am & 6:45pm

Confessions

Saturday - 3:30pm until 4:15pm

Rectory Hours

Monday - Friday - 9am-3pm

(The rectory is closed for lunch from 1-1:30pm)

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Schneider
Pastor

Rev. Donald E. Snyder
Retired, In Residence

Sr. Jane Reisinger, SND
Pastoral Associate

Liz Schneider
Business Manager

Lisa Carson
Office Manager

John Mastandrea
Development

Frank Kozuch
Music Director

Terri Sozio
Religious Education



St. Thomas More School
PreSchool thru 8th Grade

Meg Cosgriff - Principal
216-749-1660 | stmschool.com



SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 –

VIGIL

4:30 PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 –

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*9:00 AM - Officer Tony Smerk, Jr.

*11:00 AM - Elinore Korow Bieber

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2 –

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

8:15 AM - Greg Cosgriff

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 –

SS. BLAISE & ANSGAR

6:45 PM - Michel Howe (Living)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 –

WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Ken Schneider

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5 –

ST. AGATHA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 –

ST. PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS

8:15 AM - Women & Men in Consecrated Life

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 –

WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Homebound Parishioners

*4:30 PM - Justin Brandon Weegar

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 –

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

*11:00 AM - Lawrence Masek

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

Collection for January 25th \$2,617.80

Maintenance \$275.00

Student's Weekly Offering (23 Envelopes) \$23.00

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

PARISHSOFT - FAITH DIRECT

Faith Direct is now ParishSoft. You can log in at giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-684.

Have questions? Please call ParishSoft Customer Service at 866-930-4774 option 6.

ROSARY

Next weekend, February 7th & 8th, a member of the parish will lead us in the rosary a half hour before each Mass. Come early and join us!

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

©LPI

Monday, February 2 Candlemas Day

World Day for Consecrated Life

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

Tuesday, February 3 Feast of St. Blaise

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

6:30 PM - 7:45PM PSR - School

Wednesday, February 4

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Re-enrollment Assistance Office Hours - Utopia Hall

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

5:30 PM NEW Kindergarten Parent Meeting - Utopia Hall

6:00 PM PTU Meeting - Utopia Hall

Thursday, February 5

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

Friday, February 6

5:00 PM Under the Sea Dance Set-Up - Gym & Utopia Hall

Saturday, February 7

Rosary before Mass

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Under the Sea Dance - Gym & Utopia Hall

Sunday, February 8

World Marriage Day

Rosary before Masses

TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you would like a tax contribution statement for your 2025 donations, please contact the rectory at 216-749-0414. Or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the rectory to Lisa's attention.

MUSIC MINISTRY SUNDAY'S HYMNS 2/1/26

Processional Hymn: #571 Sing A Joyful Song

Offertory Hymn: #450 Seek Ye First

Communion: #466 We are the Light of the World

Closing: #382 City of God



FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! Continuing our history of the Catholic Counter-Reformation, we need to touch upon the missionary efforts of the Church in the 16th and 17th Centuries. This time period marked a great growth of the Catholic Church and some significant challenges in the New and Old Worlds.

When Christopher Columbus discovered the Americas for Europe in 1492, he had not been looking for new peoples or new lands but a more efficient route to the Far East. The Silk Road that had connected China and East Asia to Europe from Roman times had shifted into the seas. Traders from the Ottoman Empire and India dominated the movement of goods - especially spices - across the Indian Ocean to the Middle East and then to Europe. Columbus and other explorers had been working on finding a way for Christian countries to sail to China, India, and the Spice Islands directly.

By 1500 Spain and Portugal realized that Columbus had not found a route to India but to a new landmass. Calling it the West Indies since he had traveled West, other explorers and conquistadors followed into North and South America. Their first efforts focused on the Caribbean islands and Mexican coast but soon began penetrating South America on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. When it became clear that the tribes there had never heard of Christ, missionaries began journeying with the Spanish and Portuguese soldiers.

In North America the first martyr was Juan de Padilla, a Franciscan missionary. He and his companions had set out originally with Francisco Coronado who was looking for the Seven Cities of Gold. Fr. Juan explored from the coasts of Texas all the way to the Grand Canyon and even into Kansas spreading the Good News along the way. He was killed by the Guas Tribe in modern day Kansas in 1541.

Although North America did not contain any major organized political states, Central and South America did. The most famous of these were the Aztec Empire in Mexico and the Inca Empire in Peru and Chile. What the Spanish found in Mexico horrified them: human sacrifice on a mass scale. The blood of victims would literally flow down the sides of the Aztec temples, which were step pyramids. As the Spanish conquistadors defeated the Aztec tribes, Mercedarians and then Franciscans baptized the Aztec and other native tribes. Starting with the elites, the tribes accepted the Faith and rejected their pagan idols. The extent of the change is staggering: Fr. Motolinia alone likely baptized 400,000 native people! Not everyone converted, but the vast majority did so.

Although the Church grew by leaps and bounds in the Americas, she struggled to convince the European powers to treat the native populations with respect. Much evil would befall the peoples of America and Africa due to greed and the lust for power. The Church may not always get her message heard, but in every age she has tried to do what she can.

In His Sacred Heart,
Fr. John

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:
Barbara Bonus & Family.

Please continue to pray for our host families as they share their home with our Traveling Madonna. Remember, if you take any pictures, send them into the rectory. **Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2026. ALL THE WEEKS OF FEBRUARY ARE STILL AVAILABLE.**

SAINT QUOTE

"The only reason for my being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. I certainly did teach the doctrine of Christ. I thank God it is for this reason I die."

St. Paul Mikki (1564-1597),
Martyr,

Feast Day: February 6

(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; www.azquotes.com)

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

Quinn McNeill
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Wadsworth
Propaedeutic I, Borromeo



Please keep Quinn and all seminarians in your prayers as we continue to pray for vocations. To let him know that he is in your thoughts and prayers, send a card to him at 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

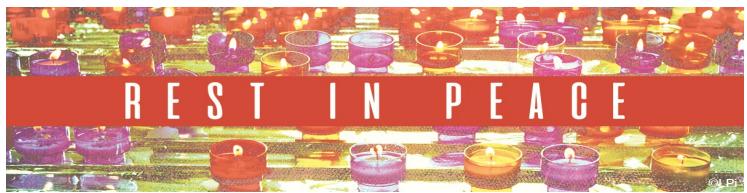
We recently registered the following people at St. Thomas More during the month of **January**—
Andrew, Zoey & Skylar Reeves, Alicia Sierra, and Robert DeMattie. Welcome to you!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Baby Elijah, Baby Juliet, Baby Kevin, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Michael J. Bogucki, Robert Bonus, Jr., Daniel Breen, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Traci Kelber-Byrne, Michael C., Janet Call, John Callahan, Tracey Carlisle & Toni, Mike Castrigano, Harper Lee & Leslee Godwin Crum, Lori Curry, Lisa Cwalinski, Barb Davis, Rosie DeJesus, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Dave Finohr, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Tina Galaida, Judy Gallagher, Kevin T. Gallagher, Joel Gorski, Monica Gribb, Annette Gyory, Joanne Hallick, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, Mary Beth Hayet, John Hearn, Bobby Hengoed, Eddie Hengoed, Jr., Pat H., Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Michel Howe, Barbara Hughes, Margaret Ann Jablonski, Joshua, Joan Kalal, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Freddy Kinsey, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Shirley Kowall, Al Lada, Richard Lewis, Lucy Magyar, Luigi Mangione, Jane McClure, Brother Bobby McFadden, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Vinny Mercurio, Gail Michal, Lorrie Minch, Dan Misch & Christine DeMarco, Rafaela Morales, Shirley Mulmall, Barb Mundson, Josalynn Murray, Bridget Nnabugwu, Chuck Nohejl, David Novatny, Ellen Omilanowski, Jack Palumbo, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Kenny Parks, Betty (Gruntkowski) Popow, Jim Popow, Ronald Patten, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Judy Romaniw, Michael S., Mary Schneider, Janet Sekerak, Mike Sekerak, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Special Intention, Margie & Don Spitz & family, Jennifer Stancato, Mark Suhajcik, Sean Szill, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Kevin Vest, Tom Wenderoth, Patricia Werley, Norma Westrick, Kathy Yomack & family, Evie Zalar, Marian Zawadzki & Phyllis Zindroski.

Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember in your prayers Leroy Werley, Janice Ann Kuchar, Joseph Ray, and Andrea Lingenfelter. God grant them eternal rest.

PRE-PLAN FUNERAL INFORMATION

If you are interested in planning your own funeral Mass, please contact the rectory and one of the members of the Ministry of Consolation will contact you to set up a convenient time for you. Pre-Planning has many advantages. You are able to select your favorite readings and songs for your Mass. It also takes a lot of stress away from your loved ones.

2026 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2026 is available. A donation of \$10 is requested for each intention. The Mass intentions will only be for the weekday and Saturday 8:15am Masses. **To ensure that everyone is able to schedule their Masses, at this time you may schedule TWO (2) Masses per family.**

WOMEN'S GUILD

Please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, February 10th at 11:30am in Utopia Hall. Bridget Balbier will present "Organize with B," a program on decluttering. Pizza, Valentine cookies, coffee, and tea will be served. Hope you can join us.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL APPEAL

Yours are the hands. Your support of the 2026 Catholic Charities Appeal will help us serve those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. This year's collection will take place the weekend of February 14/15.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE February 7/8

MASS	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	Steve Cottos Nina Ferguson Mary Lou LoBue Jill Parks	Sheryl Finohr Tim Lozar	Emma Wright Amy Vu	
9:00 AM	Vern Recker Bonnie Kaznoch Chris Koch Heather Roberts	Jennifer Mladineo Dolores Hules	Noah Redloske Cruz Colón	
11:00 AM	Heather Miksch Madelyn Koranda Sue Poole Linda Rafferty	Barbara Kish Patty Riegling	Amelia Nieves Danny Coughlin	

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 1, 2026

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

First graders at St. Thomas More continue to develop their faith and academic skills!

In religion class, we learned about the Sacrament of Baptism and becoming a member of the Church. We learned that God is great and Holy. We learned about the church and the holy things that we see when we are in God's house. We learned about Jesus teaching his friends to pray, and how we can pray and spend time with God. Christmas was a wonderful time to learn about the virtue of Gratitude and God's gift to us of his love, and our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are beginning to learn about the Twelve Apostles and how we can live as disciples of Jesus. We have discussed how each of us can share Jesus' light and spread His love.

We continue to develop our reading skills in first grade. We are becoming excited with our new skills, and we are gaining confidence in our reading ability. In phonics, we have moved on from short vowel sounds to sounding out long vowel words. We are learning about different kinds of nouns. We continue to work on comprehension skills and exploring the different genres of literature.

In math class, we continue to strengthen our math fact fluency. Knowledge of math facts helps us as we continue to use these skills to solve word problems. In science class, we have studied the different landscapes of the earth, the effects of the sun on us and our planet, and the water cycle. What a perfect time to learn about snow as a type of precipitation!

First grade has been very busy learning new things each day, and we are eagerly awaiting the return of Mrs. Lewis from her maternity leave!



Mrs. Colbaugh
First Grade

LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support for last weeks' Collection for the Church in Latin America. The money we collected as a parish will help to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean, so they in turn can share the Good News in their communities.

If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

#iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts online funds for this work - see usccb.igivecatholictogether.org. Your gift makes a difference!



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations for Christmas. Our total for Christmas 2025 is \$18,416. God bless you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you to all who donated towards the Christmas flowers this year. This year's beautiful flowers were in loving memory of the following:

Alexsovich & Balbier Families

James Banasik

Mary & Edward Banasik

Jewel Blasco

DeFlorville, Lombardo & Skehan Families

Frank & Regina Dylinski

Officer William J. Fores

Richard Hovan

Rosemary Hules

Chester, Steffi & Robert Janas

Mary Grace & Michelene

Louis & Mary Kaduk

Emil & Marie Kleinweber

Loretta & Edward Kneier

Dominic Konopka & Family

Paul & Nancy LoBue

Theodore & Wanda Maslanka

The Jerry & Mary Misch Family

Albert & Laura Mladineo

Frank & Mary Pirozek

Ronald & Gregory Prusha

Smotzer & Niziolek Families

Michael Stewart

Tlacil & Poole Families

Veloski & Kist Families

Celeste K. Wells

Eugene M. & Dorothy Wiencek

Mike, Helen & Mary Ellen Yasko

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is Monday, February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day: the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. If you would like to purchase these blessed candles, they will be in a basket on the altar. Freewill donations accepted.

WORD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

The World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life is celebrated in the church on Monday, February 2nd and in parishes over the weekend of January 31st - February 1st. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

The feast of St. Blaise is Tuesday, February 3rd. A general assembly blessing will take place at all Masses this weekend.



St. Thomas More Parish

MARDI GRAS

Saturday, February 14, 2026

Doors Open at 5:30pm /Dinner at 6:15pm
(Adults age 21 and over)

Dinner Ticket

\$35 per person
includes 1 alcoholic drink

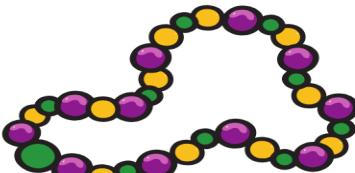


Table of 8

\$265 per table

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE TICKETS: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

Beer/Wine **\$3** each or **\$10** unlimited

After Dinner - 8pm entry
No Charge

**Live & Silent Auctions,
Basket Raffles, DJ & more!**

Tickets available at
stmparish.net/mardigras or at the rectory
No Outside Alcohol Permitted



MARDI GRAS VOLUNTEER FOR MARDI GRAS

In order to make Mardi Gras successful, help is needed in a variety of tasks including decorating, kitchen prep, dinner service, side boards, raffle basket tickets, and more. Want to help? Visit stmparish.net/mardigras to view our SignUp-Genius form to volunteer. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

DONATE TO MARDI GRAS

Do you have sports, concert, or theatre tickets? Do you own a business? Do you want to donate to Mardi Gras? We are currently accepting donations of a variety of items for our auctions and basket raffles. In addition, you can make a monetary donation which will be turned into one of our signature gifts. If you are making a basket, the value of each completed donated basket must be at least \$25. No lottery baskets can be accepted. Contact the rectory or email Jeff Stutzman at jstutzman@stmparish.net to donate.

DESSERT DASH

One of our favorite games during Mardi Gras is a Dessert Dash, where participants bid to be the first to choose a dessert from the table. Under the dessert is a chance to win a gift card. To donate a dessert to the game, please contact the rectory. Even if you are unable to attend, you can still provide a dessert.