

# ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



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



Join our email list at [stmparish.net/email](http://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](http://stmschool.com)



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 –

### VIGIL

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

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 –

### WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Werley Family

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 –

### ST. SCHOLASTICA

6:45 PM - Donald Stopa

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 –

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

8:15 AM - All Souls' Day Intentions

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 –

### WEEKDAY

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 –

### WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Louis & Mary Galuszka

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 –

### SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS

8:15 AM - Married Couples

\*4:30 PM - Paul Joseph Kolenc

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 –

### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

\*11:00 AM - Secilio & Vickie Caraballo

\*Mass of Remembrance

# Financial Blessings

Collection for February 1st ..... \$4,441.00

Maintenance ..... \$1,247.00

Student's Weekly Offering (10 Envelopes) .... \$63.00

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.

## THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

### Monday, February 9

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

### Tuesday, February 10

11:30 AM Women's Guild Meeting - Utopia Hall

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

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

### Wednesday, February 11

World Day of the Sick

12:00 PM 60+ Club - Queen of the Holy Rosary Shrine at Incarnate Word

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

### Thursday, February 12

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

### Friday, February 13

NO SCHOOL

### Saturday, February 14



Catholic Charities Appeal

5:30 PM - 11:00 PM



Mardi Gras - Gym & Utopia Hall

### Sunday, February 15

Catholic Charities Appeal

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Confirmation -

Mass & Meeting: Church & Utopia Hall

## 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.

## 60+ CLUB

Please join us to say the rosary at 12pm at the Incarnate Word Shrine (6618 Pearl Road) on Wednesday, February 11th. Lunch after at a local restaurant. All are welcome!

## MUSIC MINISTRY SUNDAY'S HYMNS 2/8/26

**Processional Hymn:** #216 Holy, Holy, Holy

**Offertory Hymn:** #621 Whatsoever You Do

**Communion:** #467 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

**Closing:** #207 Holy God We Praise Thy Name

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! Last week we started discussing the Church and the New World, especially her missionary efforts. Any conversation about the European powers and the Americas, however, requires comment on the slave trade. Eventually, the Church would clearly condemn slavery but that condemnation did not come quickly.

In fairness to the Church's earlier accommodation, slavery has and likely always will exist. Certainly, the abolition of legalized slavery was a tremendous gain for the peoples who were oppressed by that nefarious institution. Outlawing a practice is not the same as eliminating it - look at drug use and the cartels for a useful example. Current estimates have 1.1 million modern slaves in the United States. The vast majority of such people are trafficked by the aforementioned drug cartels so that the number above is as much a guess as an estimate. Nevertheless, given the surveillance power of the modern state, it is a sobering thought that so many could be so trapped.

The Church has always condemned the slavery of Christians, and that problem disappeared as the Western Roman Empire did. In the Middle Ages slavery was seen as possibly just by many theologians, including St. Thomas Aquinas, so long as certain conditions were met - such as it being the punishment for capital crime or the result of a defensive war. This theological framework of what might be called "limited slavery" began to be extended during the colonization of the Americas.

Whereas Pope Eugene IV's bull *Sicut Dudum* condemned the enslavement of baptized Christians in the Canary Islands, Pope Nicholas V authorized slavery against hostile Islamic powers in Africa. As the slave trade expanded from Africa and Asia to the Americas, Europeans made money. A lot of money. Moreover, the conditions of slavery worsened considerably in the Americas but especially in the Caribbean and in Spain's Central and South American mines. Whereas the slaves held in the Old World could expect to live out their entire natural lives, some slaves in the New World would be likely to live three years on a sugar plantation or a silver mine.

Even before the Church clearly condemned slavery in 1888 with Pope Leo XIII's *In Plurimis*, many saints worked to ameliorate or eliminate this evil. St. Peter Claver worked for over 40 years amongst the slaves of Columbia baptizing an estimated 300,000! The conditions of the slave trade were so bad that many slaves thought they were being shipped across the Atlantic to be eaten. The staggering loss of life and hardness of heart of the slave traders was truly a sign of the demonic.

In the later 19th and early 20th centuries, the Church would find a new way to articulate her moral teachings. Usually called the "Social Teachings," the Church would confront the many excesses and dysfunctions of the industrialized world. As the world changes, we must keep vigil against the new disguises of the Enemy. May the Lord give us the wisdom to discern and the courage to speak.

In His Sacred Heart,  
*Fr. John*



## TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:  
**Tina Westfall.**

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.**

## SAINT QUOTE

*"We must direct all our thoughts, words and actions to His honor; and by prayer, counsel, and good example seek His glory solely, whether for ourselves or for others, so that through our means all may love and honor God."*

St. Catherine De Ricci (1522-1589),  
Prioress, Feast Day: February 13  
(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; [www.azquotes.com](http://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.



## 2026 MASS INTENTIONS

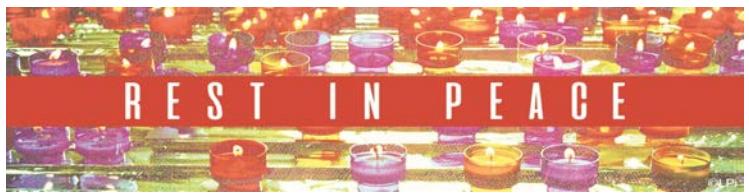
The Mass book for 2026 is available. A donation of \$10 is requested for each intention. The Mass intentions will only be for the weekday and Saturday 8:15am Masses. **To ensure that everyone is able to schedule their Masses, at this time you may schedule TWO (2) Masses per family.**



## 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, Chet Givens, Joel Gorski, Monica Gribb, Annette Gyory, Joanne Hallick, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, Mary Beth Hayet, John Hearn, Bobby Hengood, Eddie Hengood, Jr., Pat H., Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Michel Howe, Barbara Hughes, Margaret Ann Jablonski, Joshua, Joan Kalal, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Shirley Kowall, Al Lada, Richard Lewis, Lucy Magyar, Luigi Mangione, Jane McClure, Brother Bobby McFadden, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Vinny Mercurio, 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 (Grunkowski) Popow, Jim Popow, Ronald Patten, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Judy Romaniw, Michael S., Mary Schneider, Michelle Scibbe, 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, 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  
Andrea Lingenfelter, Carlos Enrique Rodriguez,  
Tom Wenderoth, and Virginia Tilicky.  
God grant them eternal rest.

## 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.

## THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention this month:

For Children with Incurable Diseases - Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers of personnel associated with the Church, immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior. Also, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999 or via email at [response\\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org).

## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE February 14/15

MASS	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	David Marks Sheryl Finohr Mary Lou LoBue Nina Ferguson	Wendy Huynh Chet Omilanowski	Noah Nguyen Ainsley French	Rev. John Schneider
9:00 AM	Jaclene Zauszniewski Terri Cottos Terri Sozio Steve Cottos	Blake Liebert Mike Sommers	Sabriena Smith Parker Redloske	Rev. Don Snyder
11:00 AM	Marty Rini Patty Riegling Bernie Barker Carl Krist	Madelyn Koranda Barbara Kish	Geovana Fagher Chase Gerlach	Rev. John Schneider

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8, 2026



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL APPEAL

The 2026 Catholic Charities Appeal will take place next weekend in our parish. Please refer to the insert in this week's bulletin which includes our parish's goal and an overview of the importance of Catholic Charities in our communities. This year's appeal theme is "Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world." Your generous support will bring peace to the lives of others, to offer dignity, possibilities and companionship to those who are most vulnerable.

Our in-pew commitment process will take place next weekend, February 14-15. All who have not received the mailing from Bishop Malesic, or have not had a chance to respond to it, will be asked to consider making a generous pledge to support the ministries and services provided by Catholic Charities. If you have received the mailing, please respond generously to it. No need to fill out an additional envelope this year, stating you have already given.

We invite you to view stories of inspiration and more information at [CatholicCommunity.org/2026Appeal](http://CatholicCommunity.org/2026Appeal).

## NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

The observances of National Marriage Week (February 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 9) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. This year's theme is "Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!" Visit [usccb.org](http://usccb.org) for more information.



*Notes From our Music Ministry –*  
by Frank J. Kozuch; Music Director

Now that we have celebrated our Savior's birth and put all the decorations away, it is time to look ahead and prepare for the upcoming season of Lent. As one of the most sacred times of the liturgical year, we focus our hearts on prayer, fasting and almsgiving to God. It is always my intention to create a more prayerful and reflective environment with music that especially pertains to spiritual renewal. We typically eliminate preludes and reflection hymns however sometimes a very quiet instrumental is a prayerful enhancement. Please note we will be singing the *Mass of Renewal* settings in our BB Missal (#858, #860, #862 & #863) during this season.

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Kindergarten has had a great start to 2026. Students have started reading and decoding words by using their letter sounds to blend them together. In math, we have learned simple addition and subtraction through 5 and will continue to work our way up to 10.

Kindergarten has done a wonderful job transitioning into joining the school for Mass, and we are excited for that each week. In religion, they are learning and understanding that all of us are made unique in God's image.

We have learned about the weather and will soon be learning more about the nature of science.

Miss Widenmeyer - Kindergarten



## MARDI GRAS

Saturday, February 14th ~ After Dinner - 8pm entry No Charge  
Live & Silent Auctions, Basket Raffles, DJ & More!

## 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](http://stmparish.net/mardigras) to view our SignUpGenius 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](mailto: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.

## PARISH PRAYER

O God, the Creator and giver of all things, bless this parish. Strengthen our faith; grant us the spirit of sacrifice and service so that, with your grace, we may provide for the needs of our members, glorify You, and sanctify ourselves. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

## REGISTRATION

Persons who live within parish boundaries should be properly registered. This includes all students in high school and college. Register by calling the rectory or fill out the new parishioner registration form on our website. If you move out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

## BAPTISMS

**Last Sunday of the Month.** Time: TBD. Prior to baptism of their first child, parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism class. Please call the rectory at 216-749-0414 to schedule an interview.

## MARRIAGES

Marriages should be arranged with a priest by calling the rectory 8 months prior to the wedding date. Individual conferences, plus attendance at a pre-marriage program, are required for proper preparation.

## ATTENTION ALL MEN!

You are cordially invited to attend the Diocese of Cleveland Annual Men's Conference on March 7th, at the Holiday Inn on Rockside Road.

Join other men from around the Diocese and Northeast Ohio for a day of Faith, Food, and Brotherhood. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. This year's speakers are Pete Burak, columnist & podcaster; Fr. Damian Ference, Vicar for Evangelization; and Bishop Edward C. Malesic, who will also celebrate a Vigil Mass at the end of the day.

For more information & to register please visit [www.cmfneo.com](http://www.cmfneo.com).

## ST. LEO THE GREAT BUS TRIPS

PRESQUE ISLE CASINO - Monday, March 23rd  
Depart 11am and return 8:20pm  
\$43/person Deadline: Monday, March 2nd

MOUNTAINEER CASINO - Thursday, April 23rd  
Casino Bonus: \$15 Slot Play  
Depart 10:45am & return 8:30pm  
\$46/person Deadline: Tuesday, March 31st

Please contact Sandy Diaddario at 216-926-3123 to make reservations and for additional information.

## WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

### **First Reading:**

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed. (Is 58:8)

### **Psalm:**

The just man is a light in darkness to the upright. (Ps 112) Or Alleluia.

### **Second Reading:**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. (1 Cor 2:1-2)

### **Gospel:**

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket." (Mt 5:14-15)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPI

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, 2026

Sunday:	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16
Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40/Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday:	Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37 ©LPI

## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the faith community of St. Thomas More, a Roman Catholic Church in Brooklyn, Ohio, are centered in the celebration of the Eucharist. By following the actions and teachings of Jesus Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we strive to build God's kingdom.

We seek to:

- ❖ Celebrate God's presence in the Eucharist, his work, and the community.
- ❖ Pass on our faith and tradition.
- ❖ Strengthen, love, and support all of God's people.
- ❖ Nurture our gifts and share them with others.
- ❖ Invite and welcome all who are in need of God.