

# ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



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



[stmparish.net](http://stmparish.net)



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send STMORE to 84576



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## 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 - 6:45pm

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

## Confessions

Saturday - 3:30pm until 4:15pm

## Rectory Hours

Monday - Friday - 9am-3pm

## Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Feldtz  
*Pastor*

Deacon Don Brandt  
*Permanent Deacon*

Deacon Charles Zawadzki  
*Retired Permanent Deacon*

Sr. Jane Reisinger, SND  
*Pastoral Associate*

Lisa Carson  
*Office Manager*

Melissa Wensing  
*Business Manager*

John Mastandrea  
*Development*

Lorrie Wenmoth  
*Music Director*

Terri Sozio  
*Religious Education*

Jeff Stutzman  
*Youth Minister*



**St. Thomas More School**  
**PreSchool thru 8th Grade**

Meg Cosgriff - Principal  
216-749-1660 | [stmschool.com](http://stmschool.com)

# ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

**BROOKLYN, OH 44144**



## **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 -**

### **VIGIL**

4:30PM - St. Thomas More PTU

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 -**

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

\*9:00AM - Claudia Dembeck

11:00AM - People of the Parish

## **MONDAY, DECEMBER 12 -**

### **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

8:15AM - Robert & Ann Dloniak

## **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 -**

### **ST. LUCY**

6:45PM - Marie Jablonski

## **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14 -**

### **ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS**

8:15AM - Eva Bunosky

## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

## **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

8:15AM - Frank Santore - Student Liturgy

## **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 -**

### **LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY**

8:15AM - Memorial Garden

4:30PM - People of the Parish

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 -**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

\*9:00AM - Rose Kopacz

\*11:00AM - Harriett Zanzano

\*Mass of Remembrance

## **FINANCIAL BLESSINGS**

Collection for December 4th ..... \$3,881.00

Maintenance ..... \$1,950.00

Student's Weekly Offering ( 19 Envelopes) ..... \$38.50

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

### **OPLATKI**

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) is available at the church after all Masses or at the rectory. A \$5.00 freewill offering is suggested.

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

CHAIRPERSON: Emily Blaich

SECRETARY: Dawn Thomas

### **REGISTRATION**

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

### **BAPTISMS**

Sunday: 12:30PM or during any weekend liturgy. 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**

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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **FAITH DIRECT**

Enroll online at [faith.direct/OH684](http://faith.direct/OH684). Have questions? Please email [info@faithdirect.net](mailto:info@faithdirect.net) or call toll free 1-866-507-8757.

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

## FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

**Gaudete Sunday:** *Rejoice in the Lord always...* (Phil 4:4) The readings for this **Third Sunday of Advent** bring us into the second half of the *Advent Season*. We are called to **Rejoice**, to *joyfully await*, and turn. The *First Reading* from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah* does more than present the “fluffy animals leaping in the field”, rather **God** alone comes to save us! We are asked to, “*Be patient... until the coming of the Lord,*” as **St. James** begins his letter. This patience then tenderly shows by the actions of **Jesus’** ministry how best to subdue the doubt of **St. John** or even our doubt. So often we may feel ourselves stuck in a dark prison of doubt like **St. John the Baptist**, but when we look at the actions of **Jesus** we see the glory of **God**. *Let’s Rejoice and joyfully await the coming of Jesus together!*

*Fr. Mike*

*From the Pastor’s Desk:*

Last weekend the winter sports season started for the student-athletes and the gym continues to buzz with the whistle blows and (*now*) cheerleaders of Saturday and Sunday games. It is nice to see the young people engage in the sports programs and show their school pride. It is all something that we should look at with some “**parish pride**” knowing how well things are for us as a parish. This is never just a sports program upon its own, but rather a sports program that is joined to a *school* and *parish community* ~ as it is all part of the over-all **St. Thomas More Family of Faith!** Let us all be thankful for the administrators, coaches, and volunteers that help make this all possible for the children, the school, and the parish ~ **Family of Faith...**

## TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of

**Laura Prince.**

Please continue to pray for our host families as they share their home with our Traveling Madonna. Remember to send in any pictures that you take to the rectory. **Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2023.**



Before the Christmas Masses, we invite you to come ½ hour early for a musical prelude. There will be solos and choral pieces for the first 15 minutes, and then a congregational sing-a-long of traditional Christmas carols the last 15 minutes. I know it is disappointing to not have the organ on Christmas, but the addition of a variety of instruments will add to the festive atmosphere. The most important thing is all of us lifting our voices in song to praise the newborn King.

## VOCATION CORNER

**Sisters of Notre Dame**

You can learn more about this order by visiting: [sndusa.org/regions/#Chardon](http://sndusa.org/regions/#Chardon). Please keep the Sisters of Notre Dame and all those discerning a vocation in your prayers as we continue to pray for vocations. To let them know that they are in your thoughts and prayers, send a card to 13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, 44024.

## SAINT QUOTE

"A Christian should always remember that the value of his good works is not based on their number and excellence, but on the love of God which prompts him to do these things..."

St. John of the Cross (1542-1591),  
Patron of Contemplatives,  
Feast Day: December 14th

(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; [www.azquotes.com](http://www.azquotes.com))

## THANKFUL CORNER

"It is more blessed to give than receive." ~St. Paul  
Thank you to all of our generous parishioners. We are so grateful for all you do to support St. Thomas More!



## Prayer REQUESTS

Theodore Antrum, Mark Banasik, Carol Bauchens, Albert Becerra, Robert Bonus, Jr., Barbara & Lloyd Bridle, Avianna Burgos, Eric Butler, Kellie Butler, Janet Call, Jeremy Cheetham, Rosemary Cimino, Noelle, Brian & Dylan Clark, , Elizabeth DeLeon, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Ruth Giaco, Sr. Carole Anne Griswold, HM, Tom Hana, John Hearn, Bobby Hengood, Doris Kaczmarek, Jesse Kazimer, Tom Knippenberg, Melissa Korhely, Jessica Kuhar, Raymond Kuhar, Charles & Helen Kuhel, Martha & George Kysil, Babs Lowe, Madonna, Scott & Family, Jane McClure, Sandy Meade, Vinny Mercurio, Carol Meredith, John Misch, Kathy Mitchell, Rafaela Morales, Josalynn Murray, Kaitlyn Oatridge, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Augustus Petersen, Mary Ellen Popovich, Nancy Prosser, Monica Puleo, Paula Ritter, Marty Rose, Marlene Sadowski, Mike Sekerak, Brigitte Seuffert, Alexis Simecek, Renate Sliwka, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Justine Steadley, Carol Swancer, Jane Szoke, Pam Tapocsi, Anthony Tedesco, Lillian Tuma, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Wayne, Leroy Werley, Patricia Werley, Betty Wozniak and Marian Zawadzki. Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list.

### **IN REMEMBRANCE**

Please remember Harriett Zanzano and Rose Kopacz in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

We will have exposition of the Eucharist from 5:30-6:30pm on Tuesday, December 20th. Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord and help prepare your heart for Christmas.

### **2022 ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15 pm and  
Tuesday, December 13th and 20th  
from 6:00 - 6:30pm

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Father:** O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Lord.

**All:** Amen.



### **CHRISTMAS RECTORY SCHEDULE**

Please note the rectory hours during the holidays:  
Closed Monday, December 26, 2022 through Monday, January 2, 2023.

### **2022 CHRISTMASTIDE SCHEDULE**

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Afternoon Vigil

11:30 pm Christmas Carols

12:00 Midnight Vigil

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Saturday, December 31- New Year's Eve

4:30 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 1, 2023 –

New Year's Day

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am - 11:00 am



### **WOMEN'S GUILD**

The Women's Guild will be having their annual Christmas party on Tuesday, December 13th, at 11am in Utopia Hall. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please bring a NEW, unwrapped or bagged item for our gift exchange. Come join us for holiday fellowship and music by our own Emily Lada's trio!

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Christmas Program: On Thursday, December 15, 2022, our Early Childhood Education students through fifth graders (ECE – Grade 5) will be presenting Songs for the Season, our annual Christmas Program. Our students have been working SO hard, under the direction of Mrs. Wenmoth. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in the Church at 6pm.

## ADVENT GIVING TREE

All gift cards with the tag attached are due by **December 11th**.

## BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES

Join us for a new book and video series: "Jesus, the Way, The Truth, and The Life." The ten week book and video series begins on Sunday, January 22nd from 2:30-3:45pm each Sunday in the church. The series will reveal Jesus, His life, and ministry through word, video, and discussion. The videos include sights from the Holy Land where Jesus walked. You do not need a book to attend the series, although it is strongly encouraged. Everyone in the parish is welcome to come for the videos and discussion to learn and grow closer to Jesus.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

**Help aging religious.** Senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer, service, and works of mercy. Most ministered for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to today's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously.

## WEEKLY CONTENT

**First Reading:** Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. (Is 35:4)

**Psalms:** Lord, come and save us. (Ps 146) Or Alleluia.

**Second Reading:** Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. (Jas 5:7)

**Gospel:** When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" (Mt 11:2-3)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## FAITH FORMATION

LOVE, HOPE, JOY AND PEACE!

We prepare for His birth which brings joy to our hearts and opens our minds with awe and wonder. We gather together as a faith community for our desire to have a more personal and deepening relationship with Jesus.

We also prepare our PSR students for this season. This coming Tuesday is our Christmas gathering celebration with our students and teachers. We will tell the story of the birth of our savior! It is a special time to watch our 1st through 8th graders interact together with Christmas joy and share in crafts and games.

Also, today is a Confirmation session with our 8th grade class. We will be talking about how to make right and moral decisions. Where can we go to help guide us? Follow the star of Jesus to make us "WISE" to make the right choices.

Please pray for all of our children to bring Jesus in their hearts to love and guide them.

God's peace to all at this Christmas season!

Terri Sozio

Religious Education

## THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST FOR ADULTS 40 & OVER

The next Theology on the Rocks West will be on Monday, December 12th at 7pm at LaCentre (25777 Detroit Road, Westlake). Fr. Joe Koopman, Professor of Moral Theology at St. Mary's Seminary will discuss the social, ethical & moral issues of Bioethics. Cost is \$15/person which includes light appetizers & refreshments. Cash bar is also available. Pay online or at the door. Be sure to RSVP either way. Doors open at 6:30pm. Register in advance at: [www.theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west](http://www.theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2022

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Jn 5:33-36

Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

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## **NOVEMBER MEMORIAL CANDLES**

If you purchased a Memorial Candle, please know that they are available to take home. They are on a table behind the sanctuary in the church. Please do not pick up candles for others unless they are aware of it.

## **WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**

We are collecting NEW adult hats, scarves and gloves. Please bring your items to the Deacon Marty room by this **Sunday, December 11th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



In the month of November we remember our beloved dead.

**WHY NOT REMEMBER THEM THE WHOLE YEAR ROUND?**

**This makes a great Christmas gift that lasts throughout 2023.**

This Memorial Candle will have their name inscribed on it and will be lit for the whole year.

Your loved one will also be remembered in a Mass once a month.

When the year is over you may take the candle and place it in a special place in your home.

The cost for a Memorial Candle is \$220.00 (displayed 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023).

If you have a candle from November, return that candle (name cannot be changed)  
and your cost is only \$210.00.

You also have the option to have a candle displayed for six months  
(either 1/1/2023 - 6/30/2023 or 7/1/2023 - 12/31/2023) for \$110.00.

(One name or one family name per candle please-  
Examples- James Mannion or The Campbell Family)

Please return the slip below to the rectory or in the collection basket with your payment.

Checks made payable to St. Thomas More.

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### **2023 Memorial Candle Form**

Please include your money with this form.

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF THE DECEASED or FAMILY NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(One name or one family name only)

ARE YOU RETURNING YOUR CANDLE?    Yes    No