

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



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



stmparish.net



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send **STMORE** to 84576



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 - 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

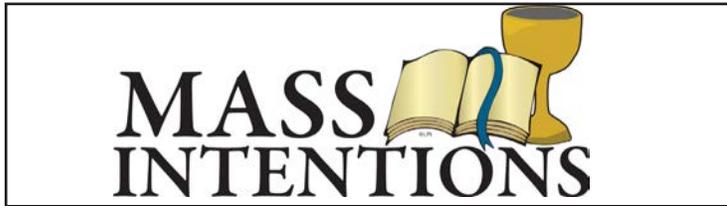


St. Thomas More School
PreSchool thru 8th Grade

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

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

BROOKLYN, OH 44144



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 -

VIGIL

4:30PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 -

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*9:00AM - Rose Kopacz
*11:00AM - Harriett Zanzano

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 -

LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15AM - Mills Mooney

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20 -

LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45PM - Carl Altenburg

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21 -

ST. PETER CANISIUS

8:15AM - Raymond Skully

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22 -

LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23 -

ST. JOHN ON KANTY

8:15AM - Women's Guild

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 -

LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

4:00PM - People of the Parish
12:00AM - Priest's Intention

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 -

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

9:00AM - Priest's Intention
11:00AM - Priest's Intention
*Mass of Remembrance

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Collection for December 11th \$4,888.90
Faith Direct as of 12/4 \$9,740.00
Maintenance \$2,334.00
Student's Weekly Offering (16 Envelopes) \$105.50
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. Have questions? Please email info@faithdirect.net or call toll free 1-866-507-8757.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

This **Fourth Sunday of Advent** brings us to the point of "**Readiness**". If we continue with the questioning, it would be, "Are you ready?" That could be a question on the worldly side and the spiritual side of the house. The **First Reading** from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah*, speaks of being ready, going as far as telling of the sign, "...the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Even **St. Paul** tells the **Romans**, that we are all "...called to belong to Jesus Christ." This is after we sing from *Psalms 24*, "Let the Lord enter..." The reading speaks of being ready. We now hear the reading from **St. Matthew** of **Joseph's** visit from the angel. The angel goes on to explain to **Joseph** the whole story of what is happening and (even) about ready to happen. Something that would rock anyone out of bed, yet **St. Joseph** wakes the next day – trusting in the messenger of **God** and takes **Mary** into his home...

Fr. Mike

From the Pastor's Desk:

The first semester of the **St. Thomas More School** year concluded this past Friday, and the students and staff are on a well-deserved break. I want to be sure to thank and encourage everyone to please be sure to thank the teachers, administrators, and staff for all of their hard work and dedication. The "behind the scenes" work on the tuition corrections, grant writings, and securing the financial stability has been huge! I know that many of us, as parishioners and parents, will never be able to *fully appreciate* the hard work which the staff and administration has put in during these few months of the fall calendar. The pieces have been falling into place to ensure a strong future for the school and the parish. The leadership of **Ms. Cosgriff** and **Mrs. Schultz** have worked with "the behind the scenes crew" to deepen the foundation for next year's academic program to be built. This team at STM School has the eyes of the Diocese watching them and (yes) taking notice! Thanks!

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of
James & Johanna Czajkowski.

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. 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

"Better that only a few Catholics should be left, staunch and sincere in their religion, than that they should, remaining many, desire as it were, to be in collusion with the Church's enemies and in conformity with the open foes of our faith."

St. Peter Canisius (1521-1597),
Patron of Catholic Press, Feast Day: December 21st
(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; www.azquotes.com)

THANKFUL CORNER

Thank you to our Music Director, Lorrie Wenmoth, the teachers and students of St. Thomas More School for such a wonderful Christmas concert. Congratulations on a job well done!

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, Katie McNally, 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 Erna Canevese in your prayers. God grant her eternal rest.

BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES

Join us for the book and video series: "Jesus, the Way, The Truth, and The Life." The ten week series begins on Sunday, January 22nd from 2:30-3:45pm 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.



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

2022 ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father: O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray Thee, and come; and with great might help us, that with the help of Thy grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. Through Christ Thy Blessed Son, our Lord.

All: Amen.



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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Congratulations to the following Christmas Cash winners:

11/24 - Joclyn Colvin
11/25 - Joe Salamone
11/26 - Pat Palumbo
11/27 - Luis Diaz
11/28 - Toni Jo Menart
11/29 - Bessy Lopez
11/30 - Albert Strange
12/1 - Jack Zaranko
12/2 - Nicole Storey

WEEKLY CONTENT

First Reading:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel. (Is 7:3-4)

Psalm:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. (Ps 24)

Second Reading:

The gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power. (Rom 1:15)

Gospel:

The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. (Mt 1:20)

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 DECEMBER 18, 2022

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

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Next Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/

Ps

96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day:

Is

52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3])/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

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FROM OUR YOUTH MINISTER

This Sunday, December 18th, all junior high (7th-8th) and high school (9th-12th) parishioners are welcome to our Youth Ministry Christmas gathering. We'll have some food, games and a simple service project from 6-8pm.

On a personal note, I am about to reach the halfway point in my formation to hopefully become a permanent deacon. I wanted to take this time to say thank you. While I spend time in class and at my field education parish, I can still feel your prayers and support. Know that I continue to pray for you and appreciate the continued prayers at this time.

God Bless,
Jeff Stutzman
Youth Minister

THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to your generosity, our #weGiveCatholic campaign raised \$40,033 on Giving Tuesday (November 29), slightly exceeding our fundraising goal. As you know, these funds will be used to upgrade the kitchen and surrounding space in Utopia Hall. Stay tuned as we develop those plans and work schedules. In the meantime, please accept a big THANK YOU from your pastor, Fr. Mike Feldtz, your school principal, Meg Cosgriff, and the entire St. Thomas More staff.

Below are the list of winners from the #weGiveCatholic drawings:

Honey Hut: \$20 gift certificate - Jane Szoke

Wally's Car Repair: 2 free oil change certificates - Jack Altenburg & Bill Bak

Dina's Restaurant: \$25 gift card - Inge Curran

Aldo's Restaurant: \$25 - Jane Ryan

Knights of Columbus Council #14416: \$50 Cash -

Patricia Fallon & Mark Milliron

Dinner with Fr. Mike - Patricia Sweeney & Paul McGuire

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "We remember the many people who believe in the Retirement Fund for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion." God bless you for donating to last week's second collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 18, 2023 for our annual Mardi Gras celebration. Details on purchasing tickets coming soon...

"A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE"

To subscribe to the Catholic Cemetery Association's monthly grief support e-newsletter, go to the signup form at <https://bit.ly/ccabereavementbulletin> or contact Rhonda at rabrams@clecem.org

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

The CCA presents free monthly Sunday Grief Support Meetings. They hold "in-office" and "virtual" meetings. Please visit <https://www.clecem.org/> for the most updated schedule of events.



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.

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