

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



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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

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

BROOKLYN, OH 44144



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 -

VIGIL

*4:30PM - Joan Kremser

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 -

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00AM - People of the Parish

*11:00AM - Phyllis Kuehn

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 -

ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15AM - All Souls' Day Intentions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 -

ST. NICHOLAS

6:45PM - Nickola Badza

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7 -

ST. AMBROSE

8:15AM - Robert Strunak

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 -

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:15AM - Sr. Ignatius Jones, SIW - Student Liturgy

11:15AM - Mother's Day Enrollment

6:45PM - Women's Guild

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 -

ST. JUAN DIEGO CUAUHLAOTZIN

8:15AM - Annmarie Ecklund

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 -

ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15AM - Joseph Valencik

4:30PM - St. Thomas More PTU

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 -

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*9:00AM - Claudia Dembek

11:00AM - People of the Parish

*Mass of Remembrance

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Collection for November 20th \$3,897.20

Faith Direct as of 11/15 \$5,073.00

Maintenance \$1,074.00

Student's Weekly Offering (21 Envelopes) \$72.50

Collection for November 27th \$5,938.00

Maintenance \$1,812.00

Student's Weekly Offering (11 Envelopes) \$110.50

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2022

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

The readings for the **Second Sunday of Advent** bring us so much to unpeel as we continue on our journey. As was mentioned last week, “Be sure to have your seatbelts on and secure, as it is a quick Advent!” The **First Reading** from the **Book of the Prophet Isaiah** tells of the unbelievable things that will happen when the root of **Jesse** judges with justice. The **Psalms** response tells how the justice will flourish, and then **St. Paul** tells us how **Christ** saves everyone! We must welcome others, as **Christ** welcomes us, to *the glory of God*. Even with **St. John the Baptist**, can you imagine a pastor calling out, “You brood of vipers!” to the congregation on Sunday morning? That would really wake them up! But as mentioned, the Advent Season is short and we are called to *not just go through the motions – but to live out the actions* which live out our faith.

Fr. Mike

From the Pastor's Desk:

This past Tuesday, November 29th, was the annual fundraiser, **#weGiveCatholic**. Ms. Cosgriff was invited to bring a group of school children down to meet and talk with Bishop Malesic, as they all helped cheer on the campaign. It was really nice to see the kids in the limelight, and representing our school and parish to the Bishop. The final numbers are still being tallied, but it is never too early to start saying THANK YOU! We know all too well the challenges of bringing the parish campus back to the grand level now and into the future. The best help is in knowing that we are making our parish better for tomorrow and those who will be following us all! There has been many volunteers and staff working hard to make this campaign a success, and (again) it is with a sincere gratitude that we say it again ~ Thank you all. Once we move through the winter sports season, we'll be able to start on the repairs and renovations of the Utopia Hall area of the campus. We will continue to share, grow, and support each other as **the parish of St. Thomas More!**

Thank you ALL for your help!

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of
The Magistro Family.

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.**



We would like to thank all those who donated to the 2022 #wegiveCatholic campaign. This day would not have been successful without your generosity!!! The grand total will be posted as soon as we get all donations counted. We appreciate all that you do to help St. Thomas More “Build for our Future”. Mark your calendar for #weGiveCatholic on Tuesday, November 28, 2023!

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

And let them remember that prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture, so that God and man may talk together; for "we speak to Him when we pray; we hear Him when we read the divine saying."

St. Ambrose (340-397),
Bishop, Patron of Police Officers,
Feast Day: December 7th

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

Prayer REQUESTS

Theodore Antrum, Mark Banasik, 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, Mike Sekerak, Brigitte Seuffert, Alexis Simecek, Renate Sliwka, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Justine Steadley, Carol Swancer, Jane Szoke, George 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 Sandra Toth, Claudia Dembek, 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 6th and 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

Tuesday, December 6th, 13th and 20th from 6:00 - 6:30pm

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 8th, the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Masses on December 8th will be at 8:15am, 11:15am and 6:45pm.

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 to meet. 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.

2023 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2023 is now available at the rectory. 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 only schedule TWO (2) Masses per family.**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father: O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ Thy Son, our Lord.

All: Amen.



"Come, Lord, Prince of Peace! Make us instruments and reflections of your peace!"

Pope Francis



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2022

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive - The STM students, families, and parishioners have once again gone above and beyond to help serve our Brooklyn community this Thanksgiving season! We received an overwhelming amount of donations between the school and parish this year. Everyone did an outstanding job, and our final total was 4,505 items! Thank you to our STM parishioners for their donations of 381 food items. The three school classes that contributed the most donations this year were 6th/7th grade (578 items), 8th grade (811 items), and 3rd grade with a remarkable 1,365 items! This year's canned food drive was organized by our 6th-8th grade Student Government members. These students not only collected our donation items from the other classrooms but also organized, counted, packaged, and helped load them for pick-up by the City of Brooklyn representatives. We are so incredibly proud of the continued dedication and service of our STM school and parish families this year!

ADVENT GIVING TREE

If you or someone you know (who lives within the parish boundaries) could use assistance for Christmas, please contact the rectory by December 9th. Gift tags are available in the vestibules of the church. We will be collecting gift cards to distribute during the holiday season. Please return the gift card with the tag attached in the collection basket or to the rectory by **December 11th**. Thank you in advance for helping to make the season a little brighter.

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

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

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.

FROM THE DESK OF SR. JANE...

That theme of celebration just keeps popping up. First there was the Feast of Christ the King. Next, is St. Nicholas, Immaculate Conception/Guadalupe, and all of Advent. Then there is Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanza, and New Years Day. The Church and society can certainly "party us out."

I have also celebrated the people that I have ministered to: Brooklyn Pointe and the Avenue at Brooklyn Residents; Ministers of Prayer and Praise, our Homebound Ministers as well as those who are receiving Eucharist, our Confirmation, Reconciliation, and Eucharist Candidates and their parents, and then last, but not least, the "Breakfast with the Word" group.

Every Tuesday morning, about a dozen parishioners get together to prayerfully reflect on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our time is spent on giving some information, so that our formation in the Scriptures can lead to transformation in our relationship with God. The general consensus from the participants is that this time has been well spent. The proof of this is their great attendance record. **If anyone else would like to join us or for more details, please call me at 216- 749-0414.**

Fr. Mike has found me a new pre-New Year's resolution, and that is to visit with the folks in our parish who are homebound. Please call me if you know of a parishioner who needs a visit. We don't want anyone "falling through the cracks." I won't just drop in, but will call and make an appointment. So far, I have truly enjoyed the visits I have made. If you would like a visit, call the rectory and I will get back to you. There are quite a few of you, so be patient with me. Know that you are free to decline having me come. Looking forward to seeing you; but in the meanwhile, also know that you are in my heart, thoughts and prayers.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you who give us great joy for celebrating.

ROSARY

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will lead us in the rosary one half hour before all Masses next weekend (December 10th & 11th). Please come early and join us!

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Lighten the Load. An abbot writes, "Your gift helps ease our worldly burdens and allows us to continue to living out our mission of seeking God and serving the Church." Donations to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection help hundreds of US religious communities to provide for their aging members. Please give generously.

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 with many people worldwide in praying for this intention this month: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations - We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

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.



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!

WEEKLY CONTENT

First Reading:

Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. (Is 11:3-4)

Psalm:

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. (Ps 72)

Second Reading:

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Rom 15:7)

Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Mt 3:1-2)

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4, 2022

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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

OPLATKI

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