

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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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

Lisa Carson
Office Manager

John Mastandrea
Development

Terri Sozio
Religious Education



St. Thomas More School
PreSchool thru 8th Grade

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

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 – VIGIL

*4:30 PM - Peggy Balazs

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

*11:00 AM - Mary Ann Manning

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 – ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Kaduk & LoBue Families

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 – ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

6:45 PM - Dorothy Castrigano

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 – ST. JOHN DAMASCENE

8:15 AM - Living & Deceased Members of the
Malames & Kissel Families

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5 – ADVENT WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 – ST. NICHOLAS

8:15 AM - Women's Guild - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 – ST. AMBROSE

8:15 AM - Helen Wires

*4:30 PM - Rosemary Greifenstein

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

11:00 AM - Mother's Day Enrollment

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

Faith Direct as of 11/15 \$1,410.00
Faith Direct Maintenance \$357.00

The financial information for the weekend of November 24th will be in next week's bulletin.

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.



Enroll online at faith.direct/OH684. Have questions? Please email info@faithdirect.net or call toll free 1-866-507-8757.

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

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Monday, December 2

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM 3 G BB Practice - Gym

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM 3 B BB Practice - Gym

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM 4 B BB Practice - Gym

7:00 PM PPC Meeting - Rectory

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM 7/8 B BB Practice - Gym

Tuesday, December 3

#weGIVECATHOLIC

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Cheer - Gym

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM 5 B BB Practice - Gym

6:30 PM Confessions - Church

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

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM 5/6 G BB Practice - Gym

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM HS BB Practice - Gym

Wednesday, December 4

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM 3 B BB Practice - Gym

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM PTU Meeting - Utopia Hall

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM 3 G BB Practice - Gym

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM 6 B BB Practice - Gym

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM HS BB Practice - Gym

Thursday, December 5

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Lil Wolverines Practice - Gym

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM 4 B BB Practice - Gym

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM 7/8 B BB Practice - Gym

Friday, December 6

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM 5 B BB Practice - Gym

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM 5/6 G BB Practice - Gym

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM 6 B BB Practice - Gym

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM HS BB Practice - Gym

Saturday, December 7 2nd Collection

Utopia Rental

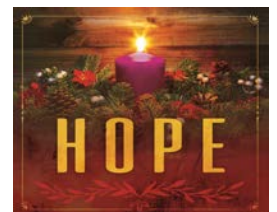
Rosary before Mass

Sunday, December 8 2nd Collection

Rosary before Masses

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father: O Lord,
stir up Thy might,
we beg Thee, and
come, that by Thy
protection we may
be rescued from
the threatening dangers
of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance.
Through Christ Thy Son, our Lord.
All: Amen.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! This Sunday begins the liturgical season of Advent, which is a time to prepare for the Comings of Christ. Whereas most of our families and friends will be focused only on Christ's First Coming (His birth in Bethlehem), the Church prepares for both His Nativity and His Second Coming in glory. Advent helps us to be ready for both by cleansing our hearts of sin and reminding us of Christ's role as savior.

The English word "Advent" comes from the Latin word, "*Adventus*." Although it first meant only the arrival of a person, it came to mean both the arrival and the celebration of that coming. A great example of an *adventus* in the New Testament is Christ's entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday; the people of the city welcomed Jesus with their equivalent of a parade. An *adventus* also designated when the Romans would arrive with an army to take a city by force. In that case, far from celebrating their arrival, the people of a city would do their utmost to either resist or placate the Roman legion. It is worth noting that a city that did not open the gates to the Romans would be sacked and possibly destroyed.

Christ will come as conqueror to those who resisted God in their hearts, but He will come as liberator to those who welcomed Him. The most important lesson to remember is that we cannot wait to prepare - we must get ready now! Christ is not going to give us any warnings of His Second Coming. The Rapture, the Final Warning, and the Illumination of Conscience are not how the Church interprets the end times. Do not be fooled into thinking that we will be given a special time to get ready; now is the time to repent.

A common ending of Catholic prayers used to be, "through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and will come to judge the world with fire." This ending captures well that Christ longs to set the world on fire with His Love and Mercy. Let us also call to mind St. Paul's advice to St. Timothy, "This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with Him we shall also live with Him; if we persevere we shall also reign with Him. But if we deny Him, He will deny us. If we are unfaithful He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself" (2 Tim 11-13).

The best way to prepare for both Christmas and the Final Judgement is to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and make peace with our neighbor. If you have not gone to Confession in several months or years, now is a good time to go. Likewise, if you have held onto hatred now is the time to let it go. May Christ's peace always reign in our hearts!

In His Sacred Heart,
Fr. John

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

Cameron Galla
Our Lady Help of Christians
Litchfield
Propaedeutic I, Borromeo



Please keep Cameron 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.

SAINT QUOTE

"God being perfect becomes perfect man and brings to perfection the newest of all new things (cf. Eccles 1:10), the only new thing under the sun, through which the boundless might of God is manifested. For what greater thing is there than that God should become man?"

St. John of Damascus (676-749),
Priest, Doctor of the Church, Feast Day: December 4th
(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; www.azquotes.com)

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, if you take any pictures, send them into the rectory. **Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2025.**

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We recently registered the following people at St. Thomas More during the month of **November** - Emily Kokal and Jacob & McKenzie Sanders & Andrew Mocniak.

Welcome to you!

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The Advent Giving Tree is now up! It is located in the front of the church to the left of the ambo and there is also a tree located by the handicap entrance. If you are able, please take a tag or two and return them in an envelope marked "Advent Giving Tree." To make things a little easier, please attach the activation slip with the gift card. The tags & gift cards can be dropped off at the rectory or into the collection basket by **Sunday, December 1st**. These tags represent the needs of local families during the holiday season. Thank you for making the season bright!

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

We will be collecting **NEW** adult hats, scarves and gloves. Please put your items in the brown donation box in the main vestibule of the church by Sunday, December 8th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ROSARY

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



Baby Elijah, Domenica Basich, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Michael Bogucki, Robert Bonus, Jr., Dennis Bunday, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Michael C., Carole Deighton, Rosie DeJesus, Christine DeMarco, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Dave Finohr, Patricia Foerster, Edward Frantz, Norma Gademer, Judy Gallagher, Kevin T. Gallagher, Joanne Hallick, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, Mary Beth Hayet, John Hearn, Bobby Hengood, Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Bryan Jaworski, Dorothy Kashary, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Carl Krist, Al Lada, Joyce Lewarchick, Richard Lewis, Lucy Magyar, Dale Mathews & family, Michael McClelland, Jane McClure, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Dreama Mecklenburg, Sandra Mellon, Vinny Mercurio, Gail Michal, Dan Misch, Ethelle Mirande, Lillian Mooney, Rafaela Morales, Barb Mundson, Josalynn Murray, Maryann Nicholas, Joan O'Neil, Lyndsey P., Jack Palumbo, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Betty (Gruntkowski) Popow, Dawn Patel, Ronald Patten, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Mike Sekerak, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Mary Sparks, Margie & Don Spritz & family, Jennifer Stancato, Gerri Strodtbeck, Sean Szill, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Sam Urban, Mary Weinstock & family, Leroy & Patricia Werley, Norma Westrick, Jan Woytek, Marian Zawadzki & Phyllis Zindroski. **Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list. Names will remain on the list until you call to have them removed.**

IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember in your prayers Shirley M. Jurcak (mother of Rev. Lawrence Jurcak), Deacon Thomas J. Senn, Rev. Neil D. O'Connor, John Skubie, and Dee Fedak. God grant them eternal rest.

PRE-PLAN FUNERAL INFORMATION

If you are interested in planning your own funeral Mass, please contact the rectory. 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.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will meet on Tuesday, December 10th at 11:30AM in Utopia Hall for our Christmas POTLUCK luncheon. Bring your favorite dish to share - or make it easy and buy something! Sister Phyllis Anne Lavalley, O.S.S. T. will speak on "Mary's Joyful Mysteries"/A Shower for Jesus. Please bring UNWRAPPED gifts for Boys and Girls, clothing up to 18 months, Diapers up to size 5-6 or miscellaneous baby items (bibs, toys, towels, etc.). Hope to see you there

#WEGIVECATHOLIC IS RENEWING OUR RECTORY



#weGiveCatholic takes place on Tuesday, December 3rd. Help St. Thomas More raise \$30,000 to make much-needed repairs to the Rectory!

You can make your contribution a number of ways. For some, the easiest way to make a donation is to put it in an envelope marked #weGiveCatholic and drop it in the collection basket (or at the Rectory).

You can also make your contribution online at <http://www.wegivecatholic.org/organization/St-Thomas-More>.

That webpage will begin accepting online donations on Saturday, November 23rd; the site stays open through the day of the actual event, Tuesday, December 3rd.

Everyone who contributes between now and midnight December 3rd will be entered in a raffle for the following prizes:

Two Grand Prizes
- \$50 Amazon gift card
- \$50 Giant Eagle gift card

Five Second Prizes
- \$20 getGo gas card
- \$20 Target gift card
- \$20 Coldstone gift card
- \$20 Panera gift card
- \$20 gift card for various restaurants

All donors will be entered in the drawings for these prizes; winners will be contacted.

There are also MATCHING GIFTS available for those contributing ONLINE on Tuesday, December 3rd.

- West Point Wealth Management will match online donations, dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$1,000, from 11AM to noon on Tuesday.

- Another match is available from the diocese that starts at 2PM on Tuesday. Give \$10 to \$500 at 2PM and those donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to a total of \$25,000.

So give at 11AM. Give at 2PM. Give anytime!

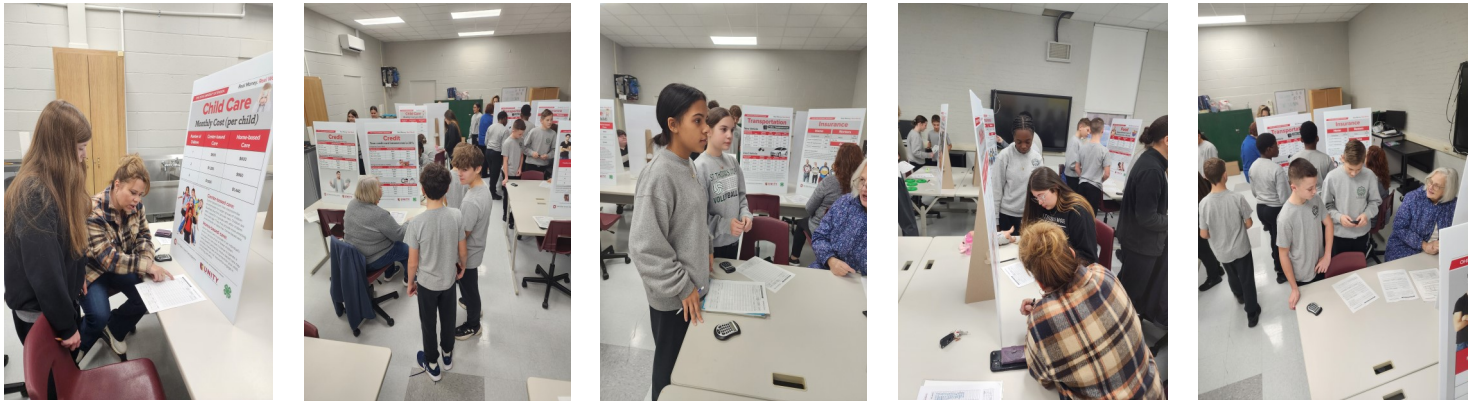
First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Middle school students in grades 7 and 8 got to experience what it is like to have a job and expenses. Unity Catholic was here for a program called Real World, Real Money. Students learned about wages, taxes, expenses and other budget items. Parents and volunteers came in to help out during a simulation where they were able to put their new knowledge to use. It was a great experience for all involved.

What we are learning: Sixth grade math wrapped up learning about fractions and will be learning about percents in our next unit. In science they are studying minerals and rocks. Seventh grade math learned about percents applications and are currently studying integer operations. In science they are learning about the weather on earth and gasses in the atmosphere. Eighth grade students are learning about linear equations in math and in science the study of earth’s fossil record.



Mrs. Relic
Middle School Math/Science Teacher

ARTS & ENVIRONMENT

Do you like to decorate your house for the holidays? How about joining the Arts & Environment Committee and come help us decorate the Lord’s house! If you are interested, please call the rectory.

2024 ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturdays from 3:30-4:15 PM
Tuesday, December 3rd, 10th & 17th from 6-6:30pm.

ANY CROCHETERS OUT THERE?

We are looking for anyone interested in crocheting baby blankets for the parish. We give them to our newly baptized. If you are interested, please call the rectory.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 9th, is a Holy Day of Obligation this year as we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Masses on December 9th will be at 8:15AM, 11:15AM and 6:45PM.



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 7/8

MASS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	Terri Cottos Abbey Eichenmiller Denise Puening Jill Parks	Steve Cottos Stephanie Liebert	Blake Liebert	Rev. John Schneider
9:00 AM	Jaime Declet Nathan Noga Dolores Hules Jennifer Mladineo	Jeannine Declet Jessica Noga	Noah Redloske Parker Redloske	Rev. Don Snyder
11:00 AM	Marty Rini Joyce Stutzman Joanne Uhl Madelyn Koranda	Mike Sommers	Danny Coughlin Alexia Torres	Rev. John Schneider

St. Thomas More Church

Brooklyn, OH 44144

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.

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 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

Fourth 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.

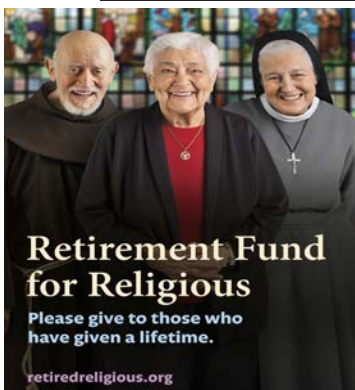
MARRIAGES

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.

A MULTI-MEDIA LIVE DRAMA OF THE LIFE & TIMES OF MOTHER ANGELICA

All are invited to Mary Queen of Peace on Saturday, December 7th from 1-2:30PM in the Parish Center for this special presentation. Experience how a cloistered nun with health problems and a disadvantaged childhood founded and became CEO of EWTN, the largest religious network in the world, through humble obedience to Jesus Christ. This unique portrayal is enhanced by historic photos, creative stage display, and miraculous facts. Freewill offering. Open to all. Sponsored by Suburban West Right to Life Ministry Question? Call Joan Kuczek at 440-884-0338.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS



Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please

give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Photos: Jim Judkis. ©2024 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.

WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

First Reading:

"In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)

Psalm:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. (I Thes 3:12-13)

Gospel:

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Lk 21:28)

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

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

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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.