



St. Thomas More Parish

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

Stay Connected



stmparish.net



[stthomasmoreparish](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasmoreparish)

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 - 3pm until 4pm

Rectory Hours

Monday-Friday

9am - 4pm

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Feldtz

Administrator

Deacon Don Brandt

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Charles Zawadzki

Retired Permanent Deacon

Rev. James Vesely

Pastor Emeritus

Sr. Jane Reisinger, SND

Pastoral Associate

Lisa Carson

Office Manager

Melissa Wensing

Business Manager

Alex Ulle

Music Director

Terri Sozio

Religious Education

Jeff Stutzman

Youth Minister



St. Thomas More School

Enrolling PreSchool thru 8th Grade

Nicole Dykstra - Principal

216-749-1660 | stmschool.com

Join our email list at stmparish.net/email | Flocknote texting list by sending STMORE to 84576



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 – THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

9:00AM - Father's Day Enrollment

*11:00AM - Arthur Markee

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 – ST. JOHN

8:15AM - Living & Deceased of the Gadamer Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28 – THE HOLY INNOCENTS

6:45PM - Memorial Garden

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29 – ST. THOMAS BECKET

8:15AM - Andrew Creter

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30 – SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 – ST. SYLVESTER I

4:30PM - Joyce Finohr

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

9:00AM - Mother's Day Enrollment

4:30PM - Rev. John Juhas

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9:00AM - Deacon Martin Thiel

11:00AM - People of the Parish

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Collection for December 12th, Faith Direct as of 12/5, Maintenance, and 75th Anniversary.

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS RECTORY HOURS

Closed Monday, December 27th through Friday, December 31st



WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

First Reading:

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." (1 Sm 1:27-28)

Psalm:

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)

Second Reading:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)

Gospel:

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Lk 2:46)

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

TORNADO RELIEF

The Diocese is collecting for the victims of the recent devastation caused by the tornado in Kentucky. Donations can be sent directly to Catholic Charities USA at https://www.catholiccharities.us/campaign/ccusa-disaster-relief/c353051 or checks can be made payable to St. Thomas More with Tornado Relief in the memo line.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Stephanie Liebert SECRETARY: Dawn Thomas

REGISTRATION

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

BAPTISMS

Sunday: 12:30 PM 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.

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE...

“He went down with them... and was obedient to them...” Can I start this week with the “Question of the Week”? (Okay, maybe a few...) Why in this day is obedience *such a bad word*? Why do we cringe when obedience is asked? Yes, we do want everyone to be happy and get along. But, without the obedience and respect that we find in Jesus’s example in St. Luke’s Gospel we really don’t have much to hang our hat on.

The lectionary offers many readings and options this week. After reading and praying over all of these various options, I felt the Holy Spirit draw out the First Reading from *Sirach* and the *Second Reading* from *John’s First Letter*. Both readings speak of family life. Yes, I know that we have the portion that deals with fathers and all that respect and honor for them. This reading is taken from a section of the *Book of Sirach* that is worth the read as it gives a number of directive on living well. The *Second Reading* in turn tells us, that as children of God, we need to keep his commandments annnd – [do what?] love one another! This all wraps up with the story from *St. Luke’s Gospel* of **Mary** and **Joseph** finding **Jesus** in the temple. Imagine the worry that **Mary** and **Joseph** must have felt? The learning point is the actions of **Jesus** near the end of the passage, “He went down with them... and was obedient to them...” Yes, even Jesus is obedient to His earthly parents. So, basically obedience is not a bad word at all, now is it?

Fr. Mike

75th Anniversary thoughts:

Continuing our season of **REJOICING**... I want to continue to use this portion to **THANK YOU ALL** for all the good that you do. Now, if you just smirked and thought to yourself, “I really didn’t do much...” I say, that is a good comment to have, as you’re humbling serving others – thanks!

But, if you *are genuinely saying* you (really) haven’t done much – well then – it’s never too late to start. Believe me, I am still working on the Christmas cards that still need to get out – *better late than not at all...* We can all be proud of the good we do here at St. Thomas More and outward for the community. Let’s all stand in front of a cross, and **TAKE A BOW!**

*Continual Merry Christmas wishes to you and your families, and a very **Peace-filled** New Year.*

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:
Gil & Joan Vanza.

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 2022. We still have weeks available in January, 2022.

SAINT QUOTE

“Who shall resist Anti-Christ when he comes if we show such patience towards the vices and crimes of his precursors? By such leniency, we encourage kings to become tyrants and tempt them to withdraw every privilege and all jurisdiction from the Churches.”

*Thomas Becket (1118-1170),
Martyr, Bishop*

Feast Day: December 29th

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

VOCATION CORNER

Lay vocations - young people discerning married or single life

Please keep all those discerning a vocation, whether it be a lay or religious vocation, in your prayers as we continue to pray for vocations.

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.

VIRUS PROTECTION

Please know that it is **highly** recommended that masks be worn at Mass. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. Please distance yourself as you process up to receive Communion as well as in the pews. Thank you for doing your part to keep everyone safe and healthy.



A great big thanks goes out to all of our generous parishioners! You have supported St. Thomas More this year through your prayers and support and we are so grateful. The parishioners and benefactors have helped us reach our 75th Anniversary goals to help with much needed repairs and to help us “Build for our Future.” God bless you!



Hania Alkhatib, Theodore Antrum, Jack Baker, Albert Becerra, Frank Bielski, Michael Bogucki, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Jonathan Cehelnik, Minh Chau & Tai Nguyen, Jeremy Cheetham, Carol Cushler, Elizabeth DeLeon, Diana Downes, Sharon Erich, Maureen Finneran, Yolanda G., Norma Gademer, Ruth & Joseph Giaco, Alice Gruden, Andy Guelker, Mila Haun, Bobby Hengoed, Ed Hengoed, Sr., Alex Hogan, Ida Jean Hopkins, Sr. Ignatius Jones, SIW, Mick Jones, Doris Kaczmarek, Ava Kaspar-Hernandez, Joe Kastelic, Jesse Kazimer, Melissa Korhely, Joan Kremser, Joyce Krist, Jessica Kuhar, Raymond Kuhar, Helen Kuhel, Martha & George Kysil, Maggie Leonardo, Robert Loria, Paul & Bobbi Matysiak, Sandy Meade, Vinny Mercurio, John Misch, Mills & Lillian Mooney, Rafaela Morales, Dave Muran, Jack Murphy, Josalyn Murray, Bill Newton, Keshia Newton, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Joanne Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Victor Piskor, Mary Ellen Popovich, Dennis Powers, Sr., Ed Readence, Paula Ritter, Diane Rodes, Bob & Audrey Roginsky, Mary Ryba, Mike Sekerak, Baby Sienna, Alexis Simecek, Memphis Charles & Myles David Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Karen Syroka, Debbie Tomusko, Joy Turner, William Udics, Joseph Valencik, Jim Viets, Leroy Werley, Patricia Werley, Erica Wilmot, Robert Wittine, Betty Wozniak and Marian Zawadzki.

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.



Please remember Lisa Kmetz, Mary Meiring, Edna Suszko and Deacon Tom Long in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

SISTERS OF THE INCARNATE WORD

ANNUAL RAFFLE - The Sisters of the Incarnate Word Annual Raffle is underway. Tickets are \$5 each and the GRAND PRIZE is \$10,000! The drawing will be held on Friday, February 4, 2022. Tickets may be purchased from any Incarnate Word student or by going online at www.incarnatewordorder.org and selecting "Raffle Tickets." If you would like additional information, please call Sharron in the Sisters' Development Office at 440-886-6440, ext. 415.

Cluster Corner

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE: 216-749-2323

Catholic Movie Night - We will be hosting a Catholic Movie Night once a month with some great Catholic movies. All movies are FREE & in the Parish Center Upper Hall. They start promptly at 6pm. Join us on January 16th for *Joan of Arc* (1948).

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO: 440-884-3030

Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity! - Fr. Josh Cochrac, your Chaplain and Spiritual Guide, invites you...**BEHIND THE WALLS: FAMOUS MONASTERIES OF THE WORLD!** Tuesday afternoons in January from 1-2pm via Zoom! Only \$10/participant. Please visit St. Charles Borromeo website to register by January 3rd. Questions? Please contact Brian Pelcin, Tour Directory, in the parish office.

ST. LEO THE GREAT: 216-661-1006

The Great Sweepstakes 2022 - Tickets for the 2022 Great Sweepstakes can be purchased through the rectory office. \$30 per ticket and you can win multiple times from January 2, 2022 - November 10, 2022. Weekly \$100 drawings, Special \$200.00 drawings and the Super Drawing of \$1,000.00 on November 10th.



Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

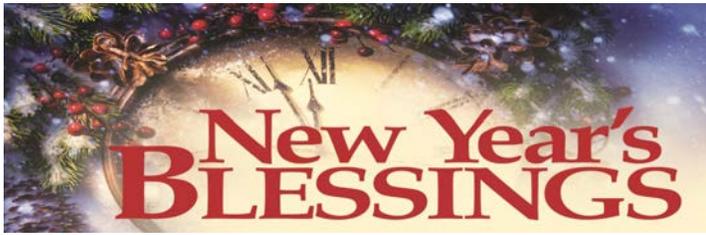
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

©LPi





MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Let us pray...

God of heaven and earth,
you came to us and took our earthly flesh
through the gift of Mary's yes.
She is our Mother in faith,
as she is your earthly mother.

We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you
for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior.
Through her self-giving,
we have been reconciled to you.

Bless us as we begin this New Year
and endow us with the desire and ability
to create a world of peace.

We ask all this,
through the intercession of Mary to you,
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Esperança

Dear Parishioners,

This summer, Esperança received a delightful experience to visit the church community of **St. Thomas More and St. Jude Parishes**. Thank you for welcoming Esperança with open arms and listening to our reflection and appeal for HOPE around the globe. YOUR community raised **\$1,359** for Esperança and moved us towards advancing our mission in improving health and provide hope through disease prevention, education and treatment for every life we touch.

As we approach the Holiday season, we want to extend our gratitude for what you have blessed Esperança with.

To continue being apart of our work or learn more about how we serve the vulnerable men, women, and children in Bolivia, Nicaragua, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico, and Mozambique – visit us at www.esperanca.org

May the Lord bless all of your love, prayers, and support.

Yours in Christ,
Esperança



EPIPHANY BLESSING OF A HOME

ALL: Make the Sign of the Cross.

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD: Peace be to this house and to all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

READER: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things come to be through Him, and without Him nothing came to be...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3, 14)

Using chalk, write the first half of the current year (22), initials of the 3 Magi (C + M + B) followed by the other half of the year (22) (20+C+M+B+22). Each could be written by a different member of the household. Place this above the main entrance to your home.

ALL: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.



It's 2022 and a year that is new. Making a resolution that's way too steep? Enrich your mind, body, spirit with one you can keep!

Start your New Year off by listening to AM1260 The Rock Catholic radio! AM1260 The Rock makes it easy to learn more about our faith with daily Mass, devotionals, news from a Catholic perspective, apologetics and much more. Listen via radio, the internet, or our mobile app. Visit www.am1260therock.com for a complete program schedule, to download mobile app, or for more information. Glory be to God and your loved ones in the New Year and beyond.