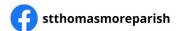
ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH 4170 North Amber Drive | Brooklyn, Ohio 44144 | Phone: 216-749-0414 | Email: rectory@stmparish.net









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





SATURDAY, DECEMER 7 – VIGIL

*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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 –

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:15 AM - Mary Margaret & Richard John Vanza - Student Liturgy

11:15 AM - Bishops of the United States

6:45 PM - Peace in the World

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 -

OUR LADY OF LOREDO

6:45 PM - Bernard Zofcin

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 –

ST. DAMASUS I

8:15 AM - Memorial Garden

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 -

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 –

ST. LUCY

8:15 AM - All Souls' Day Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 – ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

8:15 AM - Sheila Murphy

*4:30 PM - George Koehler

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 –

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*9:00 AM - Daniel Vinkowski

11:00 AM - People of the Parish

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

Collection for November 24th \$3,101.00
Maintenance \$532.00
Student's Weekly Offering (14 Envelopes) \$42.50
Collection for December 1st \$3,959.00
Maintenance
Student's Weekly Offering (12 Envelopes) \$78.50
Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

FAITH DIRECT

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

Monday, December 9

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Winter Sports Pictures - Utopia Hall

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

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

Tuesday, December 10

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory 11:00 AM Women's Guild Meeting - Utopia Hall

1:00 PM Christmas Program Practice - Church

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

5:00 PM St. Nick's Fair: Set Up - Utopia Hall

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

6:00 PM - 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 11

St. Nick's Fair - Utopia Hall

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

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 12

St. Nick's Fair - Utopia Hall

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 13

St. Nick's Fair - Utopia Hall

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 14

Utopia Rental

6:00 PM Breakfast with Santa Set Up - Gym

Sunday, December 15

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Breakfast with Santa - Gym

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.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! Usually, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th. Since this year December 8th falls on a Sunday, however we are celebrating this feast on Monday, December 9th, and it is a holy day of obligation. We will have Masses at 8:15AM, 11:15AM, and 6:45PM that day; please join us!

But, what are we celebrating? Who was immaculately conceived? Mary. Although many Catholics believe that the Immaculate Conception refers to Our Lord's Incarnation, in reality the Immaculate Conception celebrates when Mary was conceived without original sin.

In AD 1854 Pope Pius IX dogmatically defined this doctrine in his papal bull *Ineffabilis Deus*. One might wonder why such a cherished belief of the Church took so long to receive an official definition. The simple answer is that it took about a millennium for the right theologian to appear. In the fourteenth century John Duns Scotus worked out a way of understanding how at the moment of her conception Mary could be redeemed by Christ. Previously, most theologians would only state that she was sanctified fully the second after her conception. We should note that the Church has always professed that Mary was without sin. What Duns Scotus realized was that due to Mary's unique role in salvation history the LORD could apply the graces of His Paschal Mystery to her *while* creating her.

This doctrine helps us to see that Mary is truly the New Eve. Whereas the first Eve was created physically from the side of Adam, Mary was created spiritually from the pierced side of Christ upon Calvary. In effect Mary was baptized in Christ at the very moment of her conception. This grace was given to Mary in a truly marvelous way God gave her the sanctifying grace from Calvary before Calvary had transpired in time! As the Mother of God and the Mother of All Believers, this special grace is most fitting for her.

Believe it or not, there are a number of saints that we believe were born without original sin. St. Joseph and St. John the Baptist are the most famous and easiest to understand - Joseph the just man and John's leaping in the womb of Elizabeth. These two men had their original sin forgiven after their conception so their immaculate births get far less attention.

As we celebrate Mary's complete freedom from sin, we should remember our own rebirth in God's grace. What the LORD did for her through a unique work of mercy, He has done for all those who are baptized. Frequenting the sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful way to prepare ourselves for Christmas and imitate Our Lady's purity. May she who crushes the serpent's head inspire us all to reject sin and embrace God's Mercy.

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

"Never give up prayer, and should you find dryness and difficulty, persevere in it for this very reason. God often desires to see what love your soul has, and love is not tried by ease and satisfaction."

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

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

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:

The Carson 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.

2025 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2025 will become available on Wednesday, December 11th at the rectory starting at 9am until 3pm - in-person only on Wednesday. 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 schedule TWO (2) Masses per family.

2024 ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

OPLATKI

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



ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH



Baby Elijah, Domenica Basich, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Michael Bogucki, Robert Bonus, Jr., Dennis Bunday, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Michael C., Tracey Carlisle & Toni, 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 Hengoed, Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Bryan Jaworski, Dorothy Kashary, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Al Lada, Joe Lawrence, 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, (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 <u>will remain</u> on the list until you call to have them removed.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember in your prayers Rev. Neil D. O'Connor, John Skubie and Dee Fedak. God grant them eternal rest.

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 Lavalle, 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!



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.

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.

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.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CANDLES

In the month of November, we remembered our beloved dead. Why not remember them the whole year round? Memorial Candles for 2025 are now available. The cost is \$220 for the year, \$210 if you return your November candle or \$110 for six months. Forms are available at the rectory or on our website.

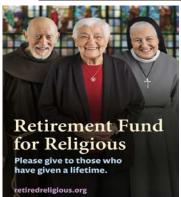
WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

All donations are due by this Sunday, December 8th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS



Support those who have given a lifetime. Women and men religious have dedicated their lives to service - praying, teaching, and caring for those in need - usually for little to no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation provides for the essential care, medicine,

and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. Please give generously.

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

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Our school community has started preparing for the coming of our Lord, Jesus by having our weekly Advent prayer service. This special time together allows us to not only draw closer to Christ, but also with one another. It is so wonderful feeling the anticipation begin to grow within our community for Christmas. May this season draw you closer to the Lord.

Mr. Adam W. Cottos



Congratulations and welcome Patrick Kevin Fallon, Gabriel Doubrava, Morgan LaFord, Jayden, Jayla & Josiah Lopez and Sabriena Smith who were baptized on November 24th. God bless you!

BE AN ANGEL IN 2024!

Donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) helped make it possible for our parishes and schools to raise more than \$6.7 million in the 2023 tax year, and for a growing number of families to receive tuition assistance for their children to attend a high-quality Catholic school.

As we approach the end of the 2024 calendar year, our hope and prayer is for the number of ASF supporters to grow so that we may achieve even greater success. We encourage all Ohio taxpayers to consider making an ASF donation that may be eligible for the state tax credit when filing a 2024 Ohio tax return.

IT'S A WIN-WIN- Eligible donors receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit*, and students get scholarships! There are multiple ways to donate:



Contact the ASF office for more information on how to "Be an Angel!" 216-902-1312 / asfinfo@catholiccommunity.org / www.catholiccommunity.org/angel

*Up to \$750 for an individual or \$1,500 if married filing jointly.

This does not constitute legal or tax advice – please contact your tax professional.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MASS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	Marilu Slimak David Marks Denise Puening Nina Ferguson	Peggy Palumbo Tim Lozar	Noah Nguyen Emma Wright	Rev. Don Snyder
9:00 AM	Bonnie Kaznoch Jennifer Mladineo Vern Recker Heather Roberts	Mary Lou LoBue Jaclene Zauszniewski	Aubrey Rankin Holly Roberts	Rev. John Schneider
11:00 AM	Bernie Barker Madelyn Koranda Heather Miksch Sue Poole	Mike Sommers	Paige Madison Gabriella Madiso	Rev. Don Snyder on

