

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

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Feldtz
Pastor

Rev. Donald E. Snyder
Retired, In Residence

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



St. Thomas More School
PreSchool thru 8th Grade

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

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 –
VIGIL**

*4:30 PM - Michael Murphy

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 –
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

*11:00 AM - Richard Balbier

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19 –
LENTEN WEEKDAY**

8:15 AM - RCIA Candidates & Catechumens

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 –
LENTEN WEEKDAY**

6:45 PM - David Dobrovic

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 –
ST. PETER DAMIAN**

8:15 AM - Parishioners in Healthcare Facilities

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 –
THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 –
ST. POLYCARP**

8:15 AM - Gerry Shamray - Student Liturgy

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 –
LENTEN WEEKDAY**

8:15 AM - February Birthdays

*4:30 PM - Ronald Wohlgemuth

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 –
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*9:00 AM - Robert McManus

11:00 AM - People of the Parish

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

| | |
|--|------------|
| Collection for February 11th | \$3,369.00 |
| Maintenance | \$2,462.00 |
| Student's Weekly Offering (17 Envelopes) | \$42.50 |
| Faith Direct as of 2/4 | \$3,608.00 |
| Faith Direct Maintenance | \$1,593.00 |

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

FAITH DIRECT

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

MASS INTENTIONS

We have some openings next week. Please call the rectory to schedule a Mass if you have not already scheduled your two allowed intentions.

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

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Monday, February 19 NO SCHOOL



3:15 PM - 4:00 PM Grades 1/2 Cheer - Gym
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grade 5 BB Practice - Gym
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Grades 7/8 BB Practice - Gym

Tuesday, February 20

9:30 AM Breakfast with the Word - Rectory
3:15 PM - 4:30 PM 5-7 Cheer - Gym
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Friends Supporting Friends - UH
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Grade 4 BB Practice - Gym
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Grade 6 BB Practice - Gym
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM PSR - School
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM RCIA - Church
8:00 PM - 9:30 PM High School BB Practice - Gym

Wednesday, February 21

1:30 PM Children's Stations of the Cross - Church
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Grade 5 BB Practice - Gym
6:30 PM **Sacrament of First Reconciliation -
Church**

Thursday, February 22

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Grade 6 BB Practice - Gym
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grade 3 BB Practice - Gym
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Coaches Meeting & Parents'
Spring Sports Meeting - Utopia Hall
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Grade 7/8 BB Practice - Gym
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM High School BB Practice - Gym

Friday, February 23

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **Confessions - Church**
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **Eucharistic Adoration -
Church**

6:00 PM **Stations of the Cross - Church**

Saturday, February 24

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Father/Daughter Dance -
Gym & Utopia Hall

FRIENDS SUPPORTING FRIENDS

Friends Supporting Friends is a group of widows that meet on the third Tuesday of each month for camaraderie and fellowship. If you have any questions, please call Carmela at 216-952-2237.

THANK YOU!!!

The Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless thanks you for your generous donations of bath towels and wash cloths. The towels have been picked up, so we do not need any more donations at this time.

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE...

So are you ready? Will you be letting the Holy Spirit *drive you out into the desert*? This time of Lent is a season of **reflecting, prayer, and growing**. The “*little reminders*” that we have in the baskets this week center on **Pray, Fast, and Give**. I know we all like “free things”, and this should be looked at not just as *an easy reminder*; but, it needs to be a hard reminder to take time to **Pray, Fast, and Give**.

In the readings this week we have the covenant that God makes with Noah (and all of us) in Genesis, then Peter links this covenant with Noah to Jesus and the suffering once for our sins, and then the *Gospel of Mark* starts out the ministry of Jesus in Galilee. Jesus starts out where John the Baptist left off; *continuing the call of the people to repent*. The two interesting points in this passage from Mark are that of Jesus speaking, “*This is the time of fulfillment...*” and that Jesus spent time in the desert **praying, being tempted, and preparing for his ministry**. I would say that those forty days in the desert included Jesus praying and fasting, because when he moved into Galilee, he definitely was one to GIVE. Let’s all take this time to reflect, pray, and grow, as individuals, families, and a parish.

Fr. Mike

From the Pastor’s Desk:

Looking back over the past few bulletins, I was reminded of the many **THANKS** that we have been expressing in this column and around the office. It seems that we all have a lot to be thankful for, even as we simply look around the campus recently. That gratitude will also continue this week as we start to take our coats off again inside the church. The air exchange has been repaired requiring the bearings and shaft all to be replaced with new parts. The donations have been coming in for the maintenance – “*Always take a green envelop and send it in!*” The anonymous donations have helped us pay for the repairs, and the funds also will start our saving up for the roof, organ, lights, sound system.... (you get the idea). We all see and know that there are the repairs needed *and just like your homes*, the maintenance bills are not cheap, nor do they get cheaper with time... This is helpful to see, repair, and be thankful – So, Thanks!

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 in to the rectory. **Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2024.**

VOCATION CORNER

Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland

Our Vocation of the Month are the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland. Please visit ursulinesisters.org to learn more about their story and to meet the Sisters. Please keep them and all 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 29777 Fairmount Boulevard, Pepper Pike, 44124.



February 24/25

| MASS | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS | LECTORS | SERVERS |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| 4:30 PM | Steve Cottos Barb Mundson Mary Lou LoBue | Stephanie Liebert Peggy Palumbo | Blake Liebert Danny Coughlin |
| 9:00 AM | Jaime Declet Meegan McKenna Bonnie Kaznoch | Al Margevicius Jeannine Declet | Noah Nguyen |
| 11:00 AM | Brandy Emery Joyce Stutzman Marty Rini | Barbara Kish | Noah Redloske Parker Redloske Nathaniel Infante |



Melissa Ali, Amaya, Ashley & Tanner, Marge Babik, Baby Eli, Baby Xavia, Terri Baranich, Carol Bauchens, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Lisa Bognar, Robert Bonus, Jr., Chuck Brennan, Barbara Bridle, Kyle Burgess, Avianna Burgos, Janet Call, Tracey Carlisle, Shawn Calvey, Christopher Davis, Jim Davis, Michael Davis, Elizabeth DeLeon, Christine DeMarco, Dolores Dickey, Diana & Greg Downes, Erica Dzurik, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Julie Ersek & Joel, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Judy Gallagher, Ruth Giaco, Chet Givens, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, John Hearn, Bobby Hengood, Dianne Hlavacek, Barbara Hughes, Donna & Doris Kaczmarek, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Larry Kolar, Melissa Korhely, Diane Kunath, Martha & George Kysil, Al Lada, Eileen Lombardo, Madonna, Scott & Family, Frank & Lucy Magyar, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Dreauna Mecklenburg, Sandra Mellon, Vinny Mercurio, Dan Misch, John Misch, Kathy Mitchell, Lillian Mooney, Rafaela Morales, Josalynn Murray, Jean Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Ronald Patten, Augustus Petersen, Monica Puleo, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Audrey Roginsky, Richard Roman, Mike Sekerak, Irene Sheridan, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Myles Sparks, Special Intention, Margie & Don Spritz, Jennifer Stancato, James Strnad, Anthony Tedesco, Joy Turner, Sue Verner, Leroy & Patricia Werley, Skip Wilmot, Stan Witowski, Jan Woytek, Betty Wozniak, Deacon Chuck & 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 Gerry Fanta
in your prayers. God grant him eternal rest.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

All are invited to attend a Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Ukraine at 6pm on Saturday, February 24th in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 1007 Superior Ave., Cleveland. The event, marking the second anniversary of the war, will be hosted by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and Greater Cleveland's Ukrainian community. Bishop Edward Malesic is scheduled to be the principal speaker and clergy from the orthodox communities are expected to participate. For more information, email cma@gmail.com.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This week there are special envelopes for the annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection and for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. For more information on both of these collections, visit www.usccb.org.

COMMUNION PROCESSION POSTURE & SINGING **Isn't standing during Holy Communion disrespectful?**

Many people feel that standing during the Communion Rite is disrespectful. This is understandable; however, it may be helpful to know that our feelings on this are largely based on our own personal histories, what we ourselves grew up doing.

Standing is not inherently any more respectful or disrespectful a posture than kneeling. It is entirely possible to kneel disrespectfully, just as it is entirely possible to stand reverently. The attitude of reverence and respect begins in the heart. Indeed, canon XX of the Council of Nicea in A.D. 325 stated that the faithful were not to kneel on Sundays. This was largely from the Church's understanding of Sunday as a day when we celebrate the Resurrection, as well as a long history among both Jewish and Christian liturgical traditions of standing when addressing prayer to God..

Prior to 1969, everyone received Holy Communion kneeling and on the tongue. The common posture for the entire Communion Rite, then, was kneeling. The change in 1969 was from kneeling during the Communion Rite to standing during the Communion Rite, with the restoration of the option for reception of Holy Communion in the hand. Most parishes removed Communion rail kneelers in response to this change. But, pew kneelers were usually left in place, so that people could kneel for the Eucharistic Prayer (which is still the normative posture for the Eucharistic Prayer). Many people received little to no catechesis or instruction back in 1969, and in the absence of such instruction, continued to do physically what they had always done – kneeling in the pew, standing and walking to receive Holy Communion but not kneeling to receive Holy Communion since there was no longer a kneeler there, then returning to the pew and kneeling again – and this response to change with no instruction is a very human thing to do.

Change in the Church does not happen immediately – it takes time. It's only been about 50 years since the 1969 Roman Missal, and that is just a blink in "Church years!" We are still in the transitional period between kneeling for the Communion Rite and standing for the Communion Rite. There is bound to be some confusion and disparity of practices while we make the transition.

SAINT QUOTE

"Now may the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the eternal high priest himself, the Son of God Jesus Christ, build you up in faith and truth and in all gentleness and in all freedom from anger and forbearance and steadfastness and patient endurance and purity."

St. Polycarp (75-156),

Bishop, Martyr, Feast Day: February 23rd

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

First Sunday of Lent

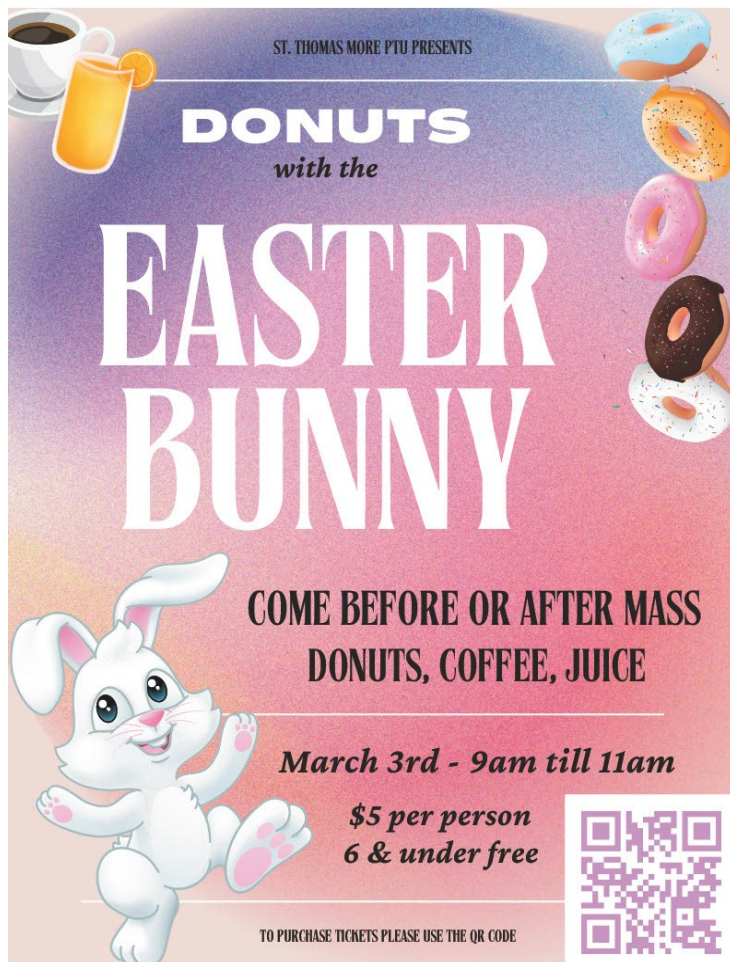
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations for Christmas. Our total for Christmas 2023 is \$22,494.00. God bless you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you to all who donated towards the Christmas flowers this year. This year's beautiful flowers were in loving memory of the following:

Alexsovich & Balbier Families
DeFlorville, Lombardo & Skehan Families
Frank & Regina Dylinski
Officer William J. Fores
Richard Hovan
Rosemary Hules
Louis & Mary Kaduk
Loretta & Edward Kneier
Dominic Konopka
Nettie, Frank & Franklin Kuchar
Paul & Nancy LoBue
Theodore & Wanda Maslanka
The Jerry & Mary Misch Family
Albert, Barbara, Celestin, Domenica & Laura Mladineo
Frank & Mary Pirozek
Smotzer & Kleinweber Families
Michael Stewart
Tlacil & Poole Families
Veloski & Kist Families
Eugene M. & Dorothy Wiencek
Mike, Helen & Mary Ellen Yasko



ST. THOMAS MORE PTU PRESENTS

DONUTS
with the


EASTER BUNNY

COME BEFORE OR AFTER MASS
DONUTS, COFFEE, JUICE

March 3rd - 9am till 11am

\$5 per person
6 & under free

TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE USE THE QR CODE



February 18, 2024



Good Friday, March 29th, is a day of abstinence from meat (for those who have reached their fourteenth birthday) and also a day of fast. The day of fast is limited to one full meal and two small meals (for those between the ages of 18 and 59). All Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord's call to penance and conversion.

Prayer opportunities include Eucharistic Adoration from 5-6pm and Stations of the Cross at 6pm on the following Fridays: February 23rd, March 1st, March 8th, March 15th and March 22nd. Children's Stations of the Cross on the following Wednesdays at 1:30pm: February 21st, February 28th, March 6th, March 13th & March 20th.

An almsgiving opportunity is to participate in Operation Rice Bowl.

2024 LENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15pm

The following Fridays from 5-6pm:
February 23rd, March 1st, March 8th,
March 15th and March 22nd or by appointment

Diocesan-Wide Evening of Confession:
Wednesday, February 28th from 5-8pm

No scheduled confessions on Holy Thursday,
Good Friday & Holy Saturday

LENTEN TALK

Join us on Thursday, March 21st at 6:30pm in Utopia Hall as Friar Johnpaul Cafiero will lead a talk on The Passion of Jesus based on the Shroud of Turin.

CRS RICE BOWL

A Season for Reflection - During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit crsrice-bowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

ST. ELIAS

The annual Lenten Fish Fry Fridays are held in the Gathering Hall (lower level). Dine in or Carry Out every Friday from 5:30 to 8pm until March 22nd.

The Lenten Mission, Commitment, will run on Thursdays during Lent starting on February 22nd and ending on March 21st. For more information, please visit St. Elias' website: steliasmelkitechurch.org.

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 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.



A covenant is a formal agreement between two parties. Assuming both parties enter into the covenant of their own free will, it is a bond that cannot be broken. As time goes on, that covenant will be tested and its validity questioned by skeptics, but it will remain if it is real.

God's covenant with his people is real. It began with a promise made to Noah and was renewed in the person of Jesus Christ. It has been tested by man through sin and by evil through Jesus' trials in the desert. But here in 2024, it still remains as strong as ever.

This Lent, take time to rediscover and reflect on this covenant God has with us. Reclaim your baptism and make it a motivating factor in how you live your life. Take the opportunity this Lenten season provides to increase your devotion and spirituality. You will be tested and you will suffer trials, for life is not always easy. But God has always upheld his part of the agreement. Now is the time to take our part in this covenant more seriously.

WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

First Reading:

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you." (Gn 9:8-10)

Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

Gospel:

He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

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

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Sunday: | Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15 |
| Monday: | Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46 |
| Tuesday: | Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15 |
| Wednesday: | Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32 |
| Thursday: | 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19 |
| Friday: | Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26 |
| Saturday: | Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48 |
| Next Sunday: | Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10 |

©LPi

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.