

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 - 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, FEBRUARY 25 -

VIGIL

4:30PM - Harold Ecklund

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 -

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00AM - People of the Parish

*11:00AM - Mary Ellen Popovich

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 -

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK

8:15AM - Mary Ryba

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 -

LENTEN WEEKDAY

6:45PM - Gilbert & Lillian Brandt

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 -

LENTEN WEEKDAY

8:15AM - Nancy Cangey

THURSDAY, MARCH 2 -

LENTEN WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 -

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL

8:15AM - Helen Pietrasz - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 -

ST. CASIMIR

8:15AM - John & Katherine Soroczak

4:30PM - Bishop David O'Connell & Violence Victims

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 -

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00AM - Deceased Bishops & Priests of the Diocese

11:00AM - People of the Parish

*Mass of Remembrance

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Collection for February 19th \$4,146.00

Maintenance \$2,218.00

Student's Weekly Offering (18 Envelopes) \$206.50

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.

Monday, February 27

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

7:00 PM - Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - Rectory

Tuesday, February 28

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast with the Word - Rectory

1:00 PM - Women's Guild Board Meeting - Rectory

5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

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

Wednesday, March 1

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Cheerleading Practice - Gym

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

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

7:00 PM - Choir Practice - Church

Thursday, March 2

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

6:45 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts - Utopia Hall

Friday, March 3

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

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross - Church

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM - 8th Grade V. Coaches/Faculty Game

Sunday, March 5

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Confirmation: Mass & Meeting

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Basketball Banquet - Gym

2:30 PM - 3:45 PM Book Study - Church

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

So here we go! Like the announcement would say at the start of the amusement park rides, “*Please keep your arms and legs inside the car until you have come to a complete stop!*” Yes, let’s ask - do we start on this journey of Lent this year as another ride or do we start this journey of Lent with the hope (and goal) of growing closer to **God**?

Both the **First Reading** from the *Book of Genesis* and the *Gospel of Matthew* deal with the temptation of “being like **God**”. The **Responsorial Psalm** and the **Second Reading** from *St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans*, acknowledges sin – our sin and speaks of the *great gift of love* from **Jesus**. How crazy is it to see *the work of God* in the temptations that we face, and the sins that we commit. The sins that turn us away from **God**. **YES**, there is that work of **God**, the showering down of mercy, forgiveness, understanding, and most of all – Love from **God**. We need to see the work of **God** in our repentance and our turning back to **God**. The Sacrament of Confession is all of that (mercy, forgiveness, understanding, and most of all – Love from **God**). So, do we act in a way as to repent and turn back to **God**? You tell me or better yet – you tell yourself in the quietness of your heart. *My simple prayer this week is for all of us to repent on our journey to turn to God.*

Fr. Mike

From the Pastor’s Desk:

Again, I have to take the time to thank ALL of those who are helping out. Thank you to those volunteers and workers at the parish Mardi Gras celebration. The final totals are coming in and the expenses are being paid, and I would say that we will have funds to continue to freshen up the Utopia Hall and Gym areas of the campus. The Church Arts & Environment volunteers are the second group to thank. They help connect the spiritual environment of the church, so all of us have a more prayer-full liturgical space. *Thank you to all of you!*

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of

Joanne Kalynchuk.

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.

The statue can be picked up from the Music Office in the church after Mass on Saturday or Sunday, but must be returned by the following Saturday to the Music Office by 4pm.

SAINT QUOTE

“The perfection of learning is to know God in such a way that, though you realize he is knowable, yet you know him as indescribable.”

Pope St. Hilary (315-368),

Patron of lawyers,,

Feast Day: February 28th

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

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 the Ursuline Sisters 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 29777 Fairmount Boulevard, Pepper Pike, 44124.

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.

BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES

Just a reminder, the book and video discussions continue on Sundays from 2:30-3:45 pm in the church until Palm Sunday. All are welcome!



Melissa Ali, Theodore Antrum, Mark Banasik, Terri Baranich, Jo Ann Bartkiw, Carol Bauchens, Albert Becerra, Robert Bonus, Jr., Barbara Bridle, Avianna Burgos, Eric Butler, Janet Call, Jeremy Cheetham, Rosemary Cimino, Noelle, Brian & Dylan Clark, Rick D'Ambrosio, Elizabeth DeLeon, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Ruth Giaco, Alex Gordon, Sr. Carole Anne Griswold, HM, John Hearn, Bobby Hengood, Pat Hengood, Doris Kaczmarek, Melinda Kardos, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Tom Knippenberg, Melissa Korhely, Jessica Kuhar, Raymond Kuhar, Charles & Helen Kuhel, Martha & George Kysil, Babs Lowe, Madonna, Scott & Family, Jane McClure, Katie McNally, Sandy Meade, Vinny Mercurio, Dan Misch, John Misch, Kathy Mitchell, Rafaela Morales, Josalynn Murray, Joan O'Neil, Kaitlyn Oatridge, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Augustus Petersen, Nancy Prosser, Monica Puleo, Elizabeth Ray, Paula Ritter, Marty Rose, Marlene Sadowski, Mike Sekerak, Brigitte Seuffert, Alexis Simecek, Renate Sliwka, Elaine Smet, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Jane Szoke, Pam Tapocsi, Anthony Tedesco, Lillian Tuma, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Wayne, Leroy Werley, Patricia Werley, Nancy Williams, Betty Wozniak and Marian Zawadzki. Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember Lloyd Bridle, Kellie Radford, Michael DeCesare, Abbot Christopher Schwartz, OSB, Rev. Edward E. Mehok, Deacon Edward J. Feldkamp, Jr., Donald Hangauer and Auxiliary Bishop David G. O'Connell in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

THANKFUL CORNER

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with our 2023 Mardi Gras celebration. It was great to be back together and enjoy the evening. A great big thanks to Jeff Stutzman for all of his hard work in making the night such a success!

LENTEN MISSION

For our Lenten Mission this year, Fr. Bob Cole will be coming to our parish on Monday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 14th. He will reflect each evening on some of the questions Jesus posed to the people who listened to Him in his day and show how those same questions are directed to us as well. Make this a special Lent by helping yourself grow into a deeper appreciation of Jesus and the meaning of your faith.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION

The Spiritual Life Commission is a group organized within the parish that assists the Pastor by developing pastoral plans and religious experiences in the area of spiritual growth and development. While Spiritual Development for an individual person cannot be scheduled, the process of spiritual growth can be facilitated by planned spiritual experiences.

These experiences include, those that provide personal encounters with Jesus, experiences that help develop a deep sense of communal identity, experiences that stimulate apostolic action for justice and experiences that evoke a deepening commitment to others through the practice of prayer and outreach.

The chief functions of the Spiritual Life Commission are to Build a Faith Community within the Parish, Assess the Spiritual Needs of the Parish and to Communicate the results to the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Staff.

This Lenten season we will embark on a mission to seek volunteers who will help form a Spiritual Life Commission for our parish and work to identify the needs of our parish and develop opportunities for meeting those needs.

Anyone wishing to participate with the development of a Spiritual Life Commission are asked to contact the parish office and offer your active support.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next week, our parish will take up the 139th annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

For more information, visit

<https://blackandindianmission.org>

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Middle school students have been hard at work! We had our candy gram sale from the student government. Students sold and put together messages and heart suckers for Valentine's Day. We were raising money for the pet shelter and raised over \$300! They worked extremely hard to get everything together and organized before Valentine's Day. Science in sixth grade is learning about body systems. Students have built a model hand that moves and a lung to represent breathing. Next, we are getting into the circulatory and nervous systems. In seventh grade we have been learning about the cycles of the earth, moon and sun. Students modeled phases of the earth using oreo cookies. Once we finish this unit we are going to become experts of biomes and ecosystem interactions. Eighth grade has been learning about genetics. Students created Punnett Squares from the Frankenfish they created. Our next unit is physics where we will be studying force and motion. Students will be creating their own cars to model ideas we will be learning about in class. In math, sixth grade is starting to learn algebra concepts. We are learning how to create equivalent expressions by factoring, distributing and combining like terms. Seventh grade math is working on geometry. We are excited to get into scale factors so we can create scale models and geometry cities in the month of March. Eighth grade is using their knowledge of linear equations to solve systems of equations and compare functions.

Mrs. Stefanie Relic
7th grade homeroom
Math/Science Middle School Teacher

RELIEF AID TO TURKEY/SYRIA

The February 6th earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria has caused the deaths of more than 40,000 people, injured countless more, and devastated the Turkish and Syrian people who are mourning unimaginable losses. Bishop Edward C. Malesic is requesting the prayers of the faithful for all those impacted by this disaster, and is asking those who are able, to give generously to support relief efforts.

Please join with Bishop Malesic and our Holy Father Pope Francis in praying for the souls of the departed, for the many others suffering in the wake of this tragic event, and for the emergency responders tending to them.

Please donate to the Catholic organizations providing emergency humanitarian relief to our brothers and sisters in need:

Catholic Relief Services: PO Box 5200 Harlan, IA 51593-0700
(<https://support.crs.org/donate/earthquakes>)

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA):
1011 1st Ave., Floor 15 New York, NY 10022-4195
(<https://cnewa.org/work/emergency-syria/>)

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

MUSIC FOR THE LENTEN JOURNEY

During this Lenten season we will be using the Wondrous Love Mass parts.

This Mass is written by Kevin Keil.

A native of Northeast Ohio, Kevin served as music director for

several area parishes before moving to Texas, and finally to Florida. Each acclamation is based on the melody of the hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This?". I have placed a worship aid in the pews that has the acclamations, as well as the psalm responses for Lent and Holy Week, and a new song, not found in the Hymnal. I hope this will help everyone be able to participate fully in the liturgy.



The music for the Lenten season becomes sparser, without musical solos. Music generally only accompanies the singing. If you are looking for some Catholic Lenten music for reflection and prayer, the Hallow App has lovely musical playlists. You can also enter "Catholic Lent Hymns" into YouTube and find traditional and contemporary playlists.

I am very proud of the St. Thomas More School students who have been volunteering to be the choir for school Masses. The students have really worked hard and enjoy leading the singing.

We are hoping to add more cantors and choir members to the music ministry. Choir practices every Wednesday for an hour, and sings every other week, rotating through all of the Mass times. Cantors need to be able to sing in the range of congregational hymns. Being able to read music and learn quickly is very helpful. If you have any questions about the music ministry, I can be reached at musicministry@stmparish.net, or see me after Mass. I would love to help you find the best fit for your talents.

ZELIE'S HOME EXPANDS ITS FAMILY

Zelie's Home is proud to announce a new addition to the family! We are expanding our community to a second location in Lakewood made possible by the generous support of Catholic Charities, the Diocese of Cleveland.

Zelie's Home is a caring community that empowers pregnant and parenting women to take positive and effective action on behalf of themselves and their children by providing physical, emotional, spiritual, and professional support. Zelie's Home is founded on five core values: human dignity, supportive & collaborative community, commitment to growth, safe learning environment, and resiliency & creativity. Please join us for an Open House for our Lakewood location on Thursday, March 2nd, from 1-7pm or Sunday, March 5th from 1-4pm. RSVP: <https://forms.gle/PhJzyJgW8H6guiDLA>



Good Friday, April 7th, is a day of abstinence from meat (for those who have reached their fourteenth birthday) and also days 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 on the following Friday evenings at 6pm: March 3rd, March 10th, March 24th and March 31st. An almsgiving opportunity is to participate in Operation Rice Bowl. Confession opportunities include Saturdays from 3:30-4:15pm.

2023 LENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturdays from 3:30-4:15 pm

The following Fridays from 5:00-6:00 pm

March 10th and March 24th or by appointment

Diocesan-Wide Evening of Confession:

Wednesday, March 8th 5:00-8:00 pm

No scheduled confessions on Holy Thursday,

Good Friday & Holy Saturday

CRS RICE BOWL

THE PILLARS OF LENT: As we begin our Lenten journey, reflect on how your prayers, fasting and almsgiving can guide you. As Pope Francis explains, these are "elements which, when lived sincerely, can transform life and provide a sure foundation for dignity and fraternity." How can practicing the Lenten pillars transform your life and the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world? Visit [crsricebowl.org](https://www.crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999 or via email at response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

WEEKLY CONTENT

First Reading:

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

Psalm:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

Second Reading:

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

Gospel:

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

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 26, 2023

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

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: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 507a, 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 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9 ©LPi

LENTEN FISH FRYS

Fish fry season is upon us! There are many local parishes that are holding fish fries. To find a complete listing of local fish fries, please visit

<https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/lent/fish-fry>

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.