

# ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



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



[stmparish.net](http://stmparish.net)



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



[STMoreParish](https://www.instagram.com/STMoreParish)



Join our email list at [stmparish.net/email](http://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](http://stmschool.com)



THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 – VIGIL

\*4:30 PM - Rose Marie Ripepi

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 – BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

11:00 AM - Rev. William J. Rock, OP

MONDAY, JANUARY 13 – ST. HILARY

8:15 AM - Mason Smerdel (Living)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14 – WEEKDAY

6:45 PM - Joseph M. Moynihan

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 – WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - All Souls' Day Intentions

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 – WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 – ST. ANTHONY

8:15 AM - Mellany Horvath (Living) - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 – WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Joseph Valencik

4:30 PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM - John A. Russo III

11:00 AM - Past & Present STM Benefactors

\*Mass of Remembrance

Monday, January 13

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, January 14

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory

11:30 AM - Women's Guild Meeting - Utopia Hall

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

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

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, January 15

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, January 16

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, January 17

10:00 AM - Mass for Life at St. John's Cathedral

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, January 18

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM CYO Basketball - Gym

Sunday, January 19

Ecumenical Sunday

Utopia Rental

Financial Blessings

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Collection for December 29th, Maintenance, and Student's Weekly Offering.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Collection for January 5th, Maintenance, and Student's Weekly Offering.

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.



The New Year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2025, we are reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2025 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. As we end our Christmas season and return to Ordinary Time, we reflect on how Baptism manifests God's Mercy. Not only does Christ's Baptism reveal Him as the Messiah but also as the Incarnate Son of God. In fact, the whole Christmas season can be understood as an extended theophany, a manifestation of God to man.

Before we can appreciate the significance of God's appearance, we need to understand what is at stake: life itself. Let's take the example of Moses on Mt. Sinai. When Moses has been God's representative for a while, he asks God to reveal His Face. God explains that cannot happen, "The Lord answered: I will make all my goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim my name, "Lord" before you; I who show favor to whom I will, I who grant mercy to whom I will. But you cannot see my face, for no one can see me and live" (Ex. 33:19-20). We cannot see the Glory of God because He is limitless and we are not.

At the Burning Bush, with the Columns of Fire and Cloud, and at Mt. Sinai, God made his presence known. With the giving of the Law at Sinai, the Lord gave the Hebrews a way for Him to be present in their midst: the Ten Commandments. He then sent the judges and prophets to ensure that the Hebrews would remain faithful to this covenant in order to grow in their ability to know God.

The Baptism of Christ surpassed all of the theophanies of the Old Testament by revealing the Trinity. Having accepted the sin of Israel symbolically through His baptism, Christ arises out of the waters of the Jordan and is shown to be divine. The Father's words still ring in our ears as we contemplate the grandeur of God's Being and the humility of His Love for descending to earth.

Our own Baptism marks us as adopted children of God. By dying with Christ and rising with Him to new life sacramentally, we receive the first fruits of divine life within us. This most precious gift is entrusted to us for our salvation and the redemption of the entire world. Revelation reached its climax and completion with Christ; our own salvation and perfection, however, grows each day that we imitate the Lord.

The more we are like the Son, the more we can know Him and through Him know the Father and the Spirit. Just as God revealed Himself in stages through salvation history, He wishes to reveal Himself more and more to each of us. Each of our souls, being unique, is an unrepeatable place for God to appear. Let us all have the courage to say with Moses, "Please let me see your glory!"

In His Sacred Heart,  
*Fr. John*

## SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

**Sean Neville**  
**St. Mary of the Falls**  
**Olmsted Falls**  
**IV Theology, Saint Mary**



Please keep Sean 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

*"I saw the snares that the enemy spreads out over the world and I said groaning, "What can get through from such snares?" Then I heard a voice saying to me, 'Humility.'*

St. Anthony of Egypt (251-356),  
Desert Father,

Feast Day: January 17th

(Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; [www.azquotes.com](http://www.azquotes.com))

## TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:

**Barbara Bonus & 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. You can pick up the statue on Saturday after 4:30 Mass or after either Sunday Mass. She must be returned by 4:00PM the next week for the next family to pick her up. Please leave and pick up the suitcase with the statue outside the Music Office in the Church.

**Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2025. THERE IS STILL ONE WEEK AVAILABLE IN JANUARY AND THREE IN FEBRUARY.**

## 2025 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2025 is available. 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.**

## THANKFUL CORNER

Thank you to all those who donated to the Advent Giving Tree. You helped to make Christmas a little brighter for families in need. We would also like to thank all of those who have helped to decorate the church. It looked beautiful and we are so very grateful for all of your hard work.

Thank you for your generosity for our  
Christmas Collection ..... \$19,375.05



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, Anita Dloniak, 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, 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, Tino Perez, Betty (Gruntkowski) Popow, Dawn Patel, Ronald Patten, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Mike Sekerak, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Margie & Don Spritz & family, Jennifer Stancato, Gerri Strodbeck, 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  
Madeline Stimac and Rev. Edward F. Weist.  
God grant them eternal rest.

### 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.

### TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you would like a tax contribution statement for your 2024 donations, please contact the rectory. Or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the rectory to Lisa's attention.

### JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Jubilee Year is a special year of grace, in which the Church offers the faithful the possibility of obtaining plenary indulgences. It began on the feast of the Holy Family (December 29, 2024) and extends to December 28, 2025.



The Pope inaugurated the Holy Year with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. After that, the Holy Doors of the other papal basilicas - St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major - are opened and remain so until the end of the Jubilee Year.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken *hope* in us.  
~ Pope Francis

Learn more about the Jubilee at:  
[dioceseofcleveland.org/JubileeCle](http://dioceseofcleveland.org/JubileeCle). Or you can visit the official website for the Jubilee Year of Hope at:  
[Iubilaeum2025.va/en.html](http://Iubilaeum2025.va/en.html).

### THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

### ORDER OF ALHAMBRA

The international Order of Alhambra is a fraternal organization of Catholic men and women founded in 1904 dedicated to assisting persons who are intellectually disabled or handicapped, particularly children. Within our Cleveland Diocese is the Cleveland chapter, the Carmona Caravan, organized in 1948. They now meet every 2nd Monday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Garfield Heights, 10806 Granger Road. Visit <https://www.carmonacaravan.org> for more details.

# Baptism of the Lord

# January 12, 2025

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Congratulations to the following

Christmas Cash winners:

- 12/23 - Linh Nguyen
- 12/24 - Geno Risaliti
- 12/25 - Char Elias
- 12/26 - Ashley Pabon
- 12/27 - Michelle Eck
- 12/28 - Aaron Crew
- 12/29 - Kim Szypulski
- 12/30 - Eileen Kovacik
- 12/31 - Tricia Ventura
- 1/1 - Brian Boftijer
- 1/2 - Emily Viskocil
- 1/3 - Maureen Hunt
- 1/4 - Rhiannon Kado
- 1/5 - Stacy Steele
- 1/6 - Peggy Hovan

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Grade 3 joined grades 7 and Kindergarten to share their love of reading! Students from grades 3 and 7 took turns reading books to Kindergarten students as well as to each other. A fun time was had by all!



Mrs. Kristen Valenty  
3rd Grade Teacher  
Saint Thomas More School

## WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 11:30AM in Utopia Hall (\*\*Weather Permitting\*\*). A representative from the new Brooklyn Library will speak of the many benefits of the new Library and will discuss book reviews. Pastry, coffee & tea will be served. Hope to see you there!

## FRIENDS SUPPORTING FRIENDS

Friends Supporting Friends is a group of widows that meet on the third Tuesday of each month for camaraderie and fellowship. Join us on Tuesday, January 21st at 4PM in Utopia Hall. If you have any questions, please call Carmela at 216-952-2237.

## 60+ CLUB

Join us for the next 60+ Club meeting on Thursday, January 30th at 1pm in Utopia Hall. We will be playing bingo, so please bring a wrapped white elephant gift for prizes!

## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 18/19

<b>MASS</b>	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>SERVERS</b>	<b>CELEBRANT</b>
4:30 PM	Sheryl Finohr Nina Ferguson *Denise Puening Jill Parks	Peggy Palumbo Chet Omilanowski	Noah Nguyen	Rev. John Schneider
9:00 AM	*Dolores Hules Aidan Cepek Heather Roberts Jaclene Zauszniewski	Rob Cepek Jennifer Mladineo	Noah Redloske Parker Redloske	Rev. Don Snyder
11:00 AM	Sue Poole *Marty Rini Joyce Stutzman Joanne Uhl	Madelyn Koranda Barbara Kish	Danny Coughlin Jackson Colon	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.

## JOIN AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY WITH MARY AND THE SAINTS IN EUROPE!

Join Fr. Joshua Trefney on this amazing 13-day journey October 5-17, 2025 to visit Lourdes, Fatima, homes of St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, newly renovated Cathedral of Notre Dame and so much more! Enjoy stunning art and architecture, some of the most magnificent cathedrals in Europe including the contemporary La Sagrada Familia, beautiful 4-star hotels - even wine tasting at a vineyard near Bordeaux and excellent cuisine!

**Don't delay, space is limited and deposit due February 28th!**

Register: [www.incrediblejourneystours.com](http://www.incrediblejourneystours.com).

## THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY - WEST

An inter-parish men's group will meet February 7th for a First Friday luncheon at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted. Registration begins at 11:15AM, followed by the luncheon, then an inspirational talk, and concludes with Mass. Please call George Perz at 440-937-6606 by Tuesday, February 4th to make a reservation. Cost is \$16.00

## WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

### **First Reading:**

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

### **Psalm:**

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

### **Second Reading:**

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

### **Gospel:**

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

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 JANUARY 12, 2025

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22  
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/  
Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/  
Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/  
Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17  
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/1  
Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

©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.