

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

(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

Liz Schneider
Business Manager

Lisa Carson
Office Manager

John Mastandrea
Development

Frank Kozuch
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, JANUARY 3 – VIGIL

4:30 PM - Rev. John Juhas

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 –

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

11:00 AM - Past & Present STM Benefactors

MONDAY, JANUARY 5 –

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

8:15 AM - Donald Stopa

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 –

ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE

6:45 PM - Albert Mladineo

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7 –

ST. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT

4:30 PM - Raffaella & Eugenio Valente

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8 –

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 –

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - All Souls' Day Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 –

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

8:15 AM -

*4:30 PM - Stanislaw Frankowicz

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 –

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

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

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

The financial information for December 28th is not available due to the early bulletin submittal.

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

PARISHSOFT - FAITH DIRECT

Faith Direct is now ParishSoft. You can log in at giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-684.

Have questions? Please call ParishSoft Customer Service at 866-930-4774 option 6.



THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

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Monday, January 5

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

Tuesday, January 6

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

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

Wednesday, January 7

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

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

Thursday, January 8

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

Friday, January 9

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

Saturday, January 10

Utopia Rental

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CYO Basketball - Gym

Sunday, January 11

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Confirmation -

Mass & Meeting: Church & Utopia Hall

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM CYO Basketball - Gym



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations and welcome Asher Augustin Kafando who was baptized on December 21st.

God bless you!

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We recently registered the following people at St.

Thomas More during the month of **December** –

Paige Haren & Jordan Ianiro.

Welcome to you!



MUSIC MINISTRY

SUNDAY'S HYMNS 1/4/26

Processional Hymn: #117

We Three Kings

Offertory Hymn: #113

As With Gladness Men of Old

Communion: #115

The First Nowell

Closing: #85

Go Tell It On The Mountain

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! In our last article we briefly mentioned the liturgy without going into detail about the reforms of the Mass. Although far more ancient than the Council, what would be called the Tridentine Rite would become the most influential liturgy in the Church.

The original Roman Rite developed around the Fifth Century under Pope Gregory the Great. This liturgy could have been ever older, but it was Pope Gregory's codification of it that gives us a definitive date. We can see even at this early time a clear difference between it and the eastern liturgies in Greek.

Over the next five hundred years, the Roman Rite spread through Europe. It did not remain one universal rite. In almost every diocese and religious order, local customs prevailed and reshaped the Mass. By 1000 AD the Western Church had dozens of liturgies grouped in a few major families. Almost all of these used the Roman Canon - Eucharistic Prayer I - but differed in how the priest started Mass and how the people participated. Although the Pope controlled the Roman Rite in Italy, outside the liturgies were controlled by local bishops and religious heads.

The Protestant Reformation forced the Church to standardize. Whereas before local customs may have been odd, with Luther and Calvin the Mass was stripped of its essence. Accordingly, the Council of Trent suppressed any liturgy younger than 200 hundred years and called for the Roman Rite to be reformed and made the standard.

Thanks to the Franciscans having used the Roman Rite, it had been spread throughout Europe anew in the 13th Century so that almost every Catholic diocese had some experience with it. Nevertheless, many Catholics were not happy to be told that they had to use it. A number of papal legates in Germany were beaten and some were even killed by angry Catholic mobs over the Mass changes.

Even though it is called the Tridentine Rite, the Council did nothing directly with the liturgy. Instead, Pope Pius V was entrusted with the work. He barely changed the form of the Mass but mandated that no one but the pope could change it or the liturgical calendar in the future. Over time almost all of the other liturgical rites died off with a few exceptions, such as the Ambrosian Rite in Milan, Italy.

The most controversial decision of Pope Pius V's reform was to mandate Latin. Many of the bishops at Trent argued that the liturgy should be in the vernacular. At the time the use of common languages was seen as too open to abuse. Many bishops expected that in a century or so Latin would be replaced with other languages. Sadly, it would not be until the Second Vatican Council that the Church changed her liturgy significantly.

The Tridentine Rite is beautiful and moving, but its dominance in the Church need not have happened. Like all traditions, liturgies evolve and change. We should all approach our worship with the humility to be moved as God wants us to be.

In His Sacred Heart,
Fr. John

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:
Paul & Mary Lou LoBue.

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 2026.**

SAINT QUOTE

"He conquered death, broke the gates of hell, won for Himself a people to be His coheirs, lifted flesh from corruption up to the glory of eternity."

St. Hilary (315-367),
Doctor of the Church,
Feast Day: January 13

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

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

Johannes Benninghoff
St. Clarence
North Olmsted
II Theology, Saint Mary



Please keep Johannes 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.

TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you would like a tax contribution statement for your 2025 donations, please contact the rectory at 216-749-0414. Or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the rectory to Lisa's attention.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Baby Elijah, Baby Juliet, Baby Kevin, Donna Baker, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Michael J. Bogucki, Robert Bonus, Jr., Daniel Breen, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Traci Kelber-Byrne, Michael C., Janet Call, John Callahan, Tracey Carlisle & Toni, Mike Castrigano, Harper Lee & Leslee Godwin Crum, Lori Curry, Lisa Cwalinski, Barb Davis, Rosie DeJesus, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Dave Finohr, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Tina Galaida, Judy Gallagher, Joel Gorski, Monica Gribb, Joanne Hallick, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, Mary Beth Hayet, John Hearn, Bobby Hengoe, Eddie Hengoe, Jr., Pat H., Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Michel Howe, Barbara Hughes, Margaret Ann Jablonski, Joshua, Joan Kalal, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Freddy Kinsey, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Shirley Kowall, Janice Kuchar, Al Lada, Richard Lewis, Lucy Magyar, Luigi Mangione, Jane McClure, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Vinny Mercurio, Gail Michal, Dan Misch & Christine DeMarco, Rafaela Morales, Shirley Mulmall, Josalynn Murray, Bridget Nnabugwu, Chuck Nohejl, Ellen Omilanowski, Jack Palumbo, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Kenny Parks, Betty (Gruntkowski) Popow, Jim Popow, Ronald Patten, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Judy Romaniw, Michael S., Mary Schneider, Janet Sekerak, Mike Sekerak, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Special Intention, Margie & Don Spitz & family, Jennifer Stancato, Mark Suhajcik, Sean Szill, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Kevin Vest, Tom Wenderoth, Leroy & Patricia Werley, Norma Westrick, Kathy Yomack & family, Evie Zalar, Marian Zawadzki & Phyllis Zindroski.

Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember in your prayers
Secilio Caraballo, Deacon John M. Rivera,
Officer Tony Smerk, Mary Malenic, and Ken Schneider.
God grant him eternal rest.

2026 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2026 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.**

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CANDLES

In the month of November, we remembered our beloved dead. Why not remember them the whole year round? Memorial Candles for 2026 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.

PRE-PLAN FUNERAL INFORMATION

If you are interested in planning your own funeral Mass, please contact the rectory and one of the members of the Ministry of Consolation will contact you to set up a convenient time for you. Pre-Planning has many advantages. You are able to select your favorite readings and songs for your Mass. It also takes a lot of stress away from your loved ones.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 14, 2026 for our annual Mardi Gras celebration. Details on tickets sales coming soon...

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 10/11

MASS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	Marilu Slimak Mary Lou LoBue Sheryl Finohr David Marks	Wendy Huynh Al Margevicius	Noah Nguyen Ainsley French	Fr. Don Snyder
9:00 AM	Dolores Hules Jennifer Mladineo Chris Koch Terri Sozio	Stephanie Liebert Blake Liebert	Parker Redloske Chase Gerlach	Fr. John Schneider
11:00 AM	Heather Miksch Madelyn Koranda Carl Krist Sue Poole	Patty Riegling	Danny Coughlin	Fr. Don Snyder

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

All students began the school year with the Fitnessgram Test, which measures the five components of fitness: cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength, and body composition. They completed the Sit and Reach, Push-Ups, Sit-Ups, Shuttle Run, and PACER tests, achieving impressive results. Top performers in each class were recognized by having their names added to the Fitnessgram trophy for the test in which they excelled.

Students in Kindergarten through second grade completed a throwing and catching unit, focusing on fundamental motor skills—especially stepping with opposition when throwing. They enjoyed a variety of games, including Oscar's Trash Can, BOOM! City, Candy Land, Smashing Pumpkins, Poison Ball, and BattleShip, all while improving their throwing and catching skills and having fun together.

Students in third through eighth grade participated in a fast-paced Handball Unit, learning to work as a team while practicing quick passing, jumping, and powerful shots. Handball quickly became a favorite invasion game among the students.

During November and December, all grade levels shifted their focus to kicking fundamentals, including dribbling, accuracy, and maneuvering around obstacles. Students loved applying these skills in games such as Crazy Soccer, GOAL!, and Sideline Soccer.

Looking ahead, we will continue building on these skills as we move into units featuring invasion games, target games, and striking and fielding activities. I want students to develop strong sportsmanship, demonstrate cooperation and support even when on opposing teams, and apply the techniques and skills learned in class to game-like situations. Above all, my goal is for them to enjoy themselves and cultivate a lasting appreciation for physical education.



Mrs. Amber Bockelman
Physical and Health Education Teacher



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.

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

Last 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.

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 (20), initials of the 3 Magi (C + M + B) followed by the other half of the year (26) (20+C+M+B+26). 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.

WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

First Reading:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 2026

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt
4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-
44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk
6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc,
17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/
Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a
and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

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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.