



“Whenever we take a
step towards Jesus,
we come to realize
that He is already
there, waiting for us
with open arms.”

POPE FRANCIS
1936 – 2025



THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 3 – VIGIL

*4:30 PM - Tina Noel

SUNDAY, MAY 4 –

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

11:00 AM - Jeff Stutzman & The Newly Ordained Permanent Deacons

MONDAY, MAY 5 –

EASTER WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Memorial Garden

TUESDAY, MAY 6 –

EASTER WEEKDAY

6:45 PM - Dave Meredith

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7 –

EASTER WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Louis & Flora Presotto

THURSDAY, MAY 8 –

EASTER WEEKDAY

FRIDAY, MAY 9 –

EASTER WEEKDAY

8:15 AM - Barbara Mladineo - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, MAY 10 –

SS. JOHN OF AVILA & DAMIEN DE VEUSTER

8:15 AM - Diane Lada

10:30 AM - First Communion

4:30 PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 11 –

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*9:00 AM - Beverly Madzia

11:00 AM - Mother's Day Enrollment

*Mass of Remembrance

Monday, May 5

3:00 PM - 10:00 PM Board of Elections - Utopia Hall

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Grade 3 VB Practice - Gym

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Grades 4/5 VB Practice - Gym

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drop-In - Gym

Tuesday, May 6

5:00 AM - 10:00 PM Board of Elections - Utopia Hall

9:30 AM Praying the Sunday Readings - Rectory

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Grades 7/8 VB Practice - Gym

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

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Grade 6 VB Practice - Gym

Wednesday, May 7

5:00 PM Playground Meeting - Church

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Grade 3 VB Practice - Gym

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

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Grade 2 VB Practice - Gym

Thursday, May 8

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Grades 7/8 VB Practice - Gym

6:30 PM First Communion Practice - Church

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Grades 4/5 VB Practice - Gym

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drop In - Gym

Friday, May 9

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Grade 2 VB Practice - Gym

6:00 PM 8th Grade Family Dinner - Utopia Hall

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Grade 6 VB Practice - Gym

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Drop-In - Gym

Saturday, May 10

Utopia Rental

10:30 AM First Communion - Church

2nd Collection: Office of Catechetical Services

Sunday, May 11

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

2nd Collection: Office of Catechetical Services

Financial Blessings

Collection for April 27th \$2,968.00

Maintenance \$485.00

Student's Weekly Offering (6 Envelopes) \$40.00

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.



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



MASS OF THANKSGIVING & RECEPTION

Jeff Stutzman was ordained a Permanent Deacon on Saturday, May 3rd. All are welcome to join us here at St. Thomas More this Sunday, May 4th for a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11AM. There will be a reception immediately following Mass in the parish gym. Please stop by to congratulate Jeff and his family.

PLAYGROUND MEETING

Fr. John Schneider will hold a meeting this Wednesday, May 7th at 5PM in the church to discuss the playground.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! A week before Easter we began discussing how to read the Bible well. Having established the many different senses to Scripture, we can now focus on understanding the literal sense and why parts of the Bible can be very challenging for us to read.

When the *Catechism* tells us that the literal sense depends on sound interpretation, it means that we read with the mindset of the human author first. As human language has changed - Latin became Italian for example - human customs also change. To translate the Bible into English requires choices to be made that can often be surprising. For example, ancient Greek did not express color the way we do so any description using such words can be tricky. Whenever possible translators rely on archeology to establish what ancient texts cannot, such as the locations of cities that no longer exist.

If we follow the traditional dating of the Bible, the Old and New Testaments were written between 1500 BC and AD 100. Originally written in Hebrew and Greek, the Bible must be translated well and understood in the context it was written in. As mentioned above, the very languages and customs involved changed during and after its composition.

Ancient Israel lived amid a variety of cultures and civilizations in what we now call the Ancient Near East. The Ancient Egyptians of the New Kingdom (when Exodus happened) had a different political system than the Egyptians of the Second Intermediate Period (when the Israelites migrated there under Joseph). Fun fact: one argument for Moses being the author of the Torah is that the covenants are written in the structure of New Kingdom political treaties. If the above seems arcane and confusing, it is! It takes years of study to understand and situate the Bible in its historic circumstances.

Although the particular stories of the Bible have their own coherence and meaning that everyone can grasp, the Bible is filled with details that only experts can appreciate. Accordingly, we should use Scripture Commentaries whenever we want to understand everything in a particular passage. When I prepare my homilies, I often read the Gospel in English and Greek with a commentary open.

The belief that the Bible can be read by anyone is correct, but the belief that everyone will be able to understand it equally well is just false. Among our Protestant cousins is the thought that each person's interpretation of Sacred Scripture is equally true. That is relativism. Moreover, there are many puzzling phrases and details that require careful study.

When we read the Bible we should be humbled. Humbled by God's Providence, and humbled by our own limitations. If we approach the Word of God with an open mind and heart, we will discover that God has more to say that we can understand. May we desire all the more to know as God would have us.

In His Sacred Heart,
Fr. John

SAINT QUOTE

"It is patience that reveals every grace to you, and it is through patience that the saints received all that was promised to them."

St. Pachomius (died 346),
Founder of Christian Monasticism,
Feast Day: May 9

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

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 2025.**

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We recently registered the following people at St. Thomas
More during the month of **April** –
Dave, Julie, Isaac & Olivia Munson and
James, Krystle & James Bradley
Welcome to you!

WOMEN'S GUILD

We will have a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 13th in Utopia Hall at 11:30AM. We will hold our annual May Crowning, so please bring your rosary and flowers for Mary. Pastry, coffee, and tea will be served. Hope you can join us.

MOTHER'S DAY CARDS

The Women's Guild will be selling Mother's Day cards after all Masses this weekend. The price of the cards are \$3 for living and \$1 for deceased. All registered will be remembered at five Masses throughout the year with the first one being on Mother's Day. The cards are also available at the rectory.

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion will be celebrated here next Saturday, May 10th at 10:30AM. Please keep all of our First Communicants in your prayers.

We ask our parishioners for their prayers as these young Catholics experience the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. There is a book in the back of the church where our students have their own page that you are welcome to sign to show your support and prayers. We also welcome you to join us on May 10th to share this very special day with us!



Congratulations and welcome
Conor Michael Fahey who
was baptized on April 27th. God bless you!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Baby Elijah, Domenica Basich, Albert Becerra, Barbara Behlke, Michael Bogucki, Robert Bonus, Jr., Dennis Bunday, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Michael C., John Callahan, 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, Ken Galaida, Judy Gallagher, Kevin T. Gallagher, Monica Gribb, Joanne Hallick, Sara Hardy, Ruth Hargis, Mary Beth Hayet, John Hearn, Bobby Hengoad, Eddie Hengoad, Jr., Ed & Dianne Hlavacek, Michel Howe, Michael Jackiewicz, Bryan Jaworski, Francine Kawentel, Jesse Kazimer, Freddy Kinsey, Betty Konopka, Melissa Korhely, Al Lada, Joe Lawrence, Joyce Lewarchick, Richard Lewis, Lucy Magyar, Luigi Mangione, Dale Mathews & family, Jane McClure, Rev. Joseph McNulty, Dreama Mecklenburg, Sandra Mellon, Richard Mendez, Vinny Mercurio, Gail Michal, Dan Misch, Rafaela Morales, Josalynn Murray, Maryann Nicholas, Lyndsey P., Jack Palumbo, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Kenny Parks, Tino Perez, Betty (Gruntkowski) Popow, Dawn Patel, Ronald Patten, Marsha Pietrasz, Vinny Rini, Paula Ritter, Lizzette Mendez Romain, Janet Sekerak, Mike Sekerak, Susan Sidley, Elaine Smet, Bill Smith, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Michael Spring, Margie & Don Spritz & family, Jennifer Stancato, Gerri Strodbeck, Sean Szill, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Sam Urban, Tom Wenderoth, Leroy & Patricia Werley, Norma Westrick, Jan Woytek, Kathy Yomack & family, Ron Young, 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
Pope Francis, Lillian Mooney, and Reva Howell.
God grant them eternal rest.

PRE-PLAN FUNERAL INFORMATION

If you are interested in planning your own funeral Mass, please contact the rectory. 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.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. The money we raised as a parish will help to strengthen the Church at home and spread the Gospel across the United States. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/home-missions. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds online for the collection - see usccb.igivecatholictogether.org.

OFFICE OF CATECHETICAL SERVICES

Each year in the Diocese of Cleveland, a special collection is taken up in all the parishes to support the ministries of the Office of Catechetical Services. This Diocesan Secretariat focuses on providing guidance and support that promotes the evangelizing mission of the Church through the catechetical efforts of all parishes and Newman Campus ministries in the Diocese. This year the collection will be held on the weekend of May 11th & 12th. A contribution to the Office of Catechetical Services is an investment in the faith formation of people of all ages throughout the Diocese of Cleveland.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

May 10/11

MASS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	*Marilyn Slimak Mary Lou LoBue Abbey Eichenmiller Sheryl Finohr	Peggy Palumbo Wendy Huynh	Noah Nguyen	
9:00 AM	*Heather Roberts Nathan Noga Dolores Hules Jennifer Mladineo	Jaclene Zauszniewski Jessica Noga	Noah Redloske Parker Redloske	
11:00 AM	*Patty Riegling Marty Rini Joyce Stutzman Joanne Uhl	Mike Sommers Barbara Kish	Brendon Kiscoe	

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

The Preschoolers demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of a butterfly life cycle by stating what occurs in each stage and then completing a life cycle circle craft. After watching and observing our 5 class pet caterpillars go through each stage, the children glued a small white ball on a leaf representing the egg in stage 1. Next, the children dipped a pompom in paint, making a caterpillar representing stage 2 of the life cycle. The children demonstrated their understanding of stage 3 by taping a chrysalis on a twig, and finally, to complete the life cycle, they put a butterfly sticker in the stage 4 section of the circle. The children had a great time watching and learning about butterflies because it happened right before their eyes!!!



Mrs. Nicole Kidd-Zientarksi
Pre-Kindergarten

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH MAY CROWNING



TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025
ROSARY 6:15 PM
LITURGY 6:45 PM
CROWNING 7:15 PM

CROWNING OF THE BLESSED MOTHER IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING THE LITURGY
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING FLOWERS FOR THE MAY ALTAR.



PILGRIMAGE

Join Friar Johnpaul Cafiero, OFM for a Footsteps of St. Paul Jubilee Pilgrimage

Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 8, 2025

Athens, Greek Island Cruise, Turkey, Rome - Assisi. Enter all the Holy doors in Rome and visit the tomb of the newest saint: teenager Carlo Acutis in Assisi.

For more information, visit www.friarjp.com or AMI Travel at www.amitravel.com

2025 ST. THOMAS MORE FESTIVAL

On Sunday, June 22nd, the parish will have a celebration of our patron saint, St. Thomas More. The day will be filled with food, entertainment and family activities.

Tickets are available at all church entrances. Tickets for our \$10,000 raffle are \$5.00 each (8 tickets to a sheet). Tickets can be dropped into the collection basket or at the rectory. There will be early bird drawings for \$100.00 each Sunday in May, so get your tickets in early for your chance to win!

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS

If you are interested in helping at this year's festival, please call the rectory.

Donations - Thank you for all of the donations that have been coming in. Our next item that we will be collecting is Gift Cards! We are also happily accepting any extra baskets that you may have laying around.

PLEASE JOIN US

IS THE MORAL LAW A BURDEN? OR DOES IT SET US FREE?

Sometimes God's Moral Law seems like a *barrier*—placed in our path to keep us from achieving our deepest desires. But can that be right? Or does true discipleship lead us to greater fulfillment?

St. Mary Church in Berea invites you to join leading Catholic moral theologian Fr. Joseph Koopman for a presentation on Catholic Moral reasoning. The Moral Law is most certainly not opposed to human freedom and happiness.

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025
7:00 TO 8:00 P.M.
ST. MARY CHURCH
250 KRAFT STREET IN BEREA



Ordained in 2001, Fr. Koopman is a professor of moral theology at Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School

PERMANENT DIACONATE ORDINATION

After five years of discernment and formation, the following three men will be ordained as permanent deacons on Saturday, May 3rd at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist:

(l-r)

Jeffrey Edward Stutzman: St. Thomas More, Brooklyn

Dale Carter Shafer: Holy Family, Parma

Richard Anthony Prayson: St. Dominic, Shaker Heights

Congratulations and God Bless!



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

World Day of Prayer for Vocations - Sunday, May 11

Dear Lord, How lovely are your ways!

Guide each of us closer to your will. Pour your courage into those you are calling to the vocations of married, religious, consecrated, and single life. Help them to respond boldly, and with trust in your provision.

Amen. ©LPi



World Day of Prayer
for Vocations ©LPi

SEMINARIANS OF THE MONTH

Our seminarians of the month are (l-r) **Dc. Christopher Cotone, Dc. Kyle Rosser, Dc. James Hawkins, Dc. Jeffrey Lindholm, Dc. James Parisi, Dc. Ryan Arto, Dc. Brian Peters, and Dc. Anthony Donatelli.**

They will be ordained on Saturday, May 17th at 10am at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. Please keep them and all seminarians in your prayers, as we continue to pray for vocations.

Please feel free to let them know they are in your thoughts and prayers by sending cards to them at St. Mary Seminary 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe OH 44092.

You may view the online broadcast at www.dioceseofcleveland.org as well as on the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Facebook page.

