

# ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH



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



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## 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](http://stmschool.com)

# ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

**BROOKLYN, OH 44144**



## **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 -**

### **VIGIL**

\*4:30PM - Mildred Ancin

## **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 -**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

\*9:00AM - Rev. William J. Rock, OP

11:00AM - People of the Parish

## **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

8:15AM - Mary Ryba

## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

6:45PM - Dave Meredith

## **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 -**

### **ST. ANDREW**

8:15AM - James Walter

## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

## **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 -**

### **ADVENT WEEKDAY**

8:15AM - Lois Bouhall - Student Liturgy

## **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 -**

### **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**

8:15AM - Louis & Mary Kaduk

\*4:30PM - Joan Kremser

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 -**

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9:00AM - People of the Parish

\*11:00AM - Phyllis Kuehn

\*Mass of Remembrance

## **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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **FAITH DIRECT**

Enroll online at [faith.direct/OH684](http://faith.direct/OH684). Have questions? Please email [info@faithdirect.net](mailto:info@faithdirect.net) or call toll free 1-866-507-8757.

# FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

The financial information for the weekend of November 20th will be in next week's bulletin due to the early deadline for the bulletin submittal.



# ADVENT



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

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# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

## FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

**HAPPY NEW YEAR** to you and your family! That is *Happy New Liturgical Year* to you... The start of this new liturgical year brings us into the start of the season of **Advent**. The readings all focus on "*being on the journey*" and "*moving out of the darkness and into the light*". The movement together up the mountain is shown in the First Reading from the **Book of the Prophet Isaiah**; moving into a time of peace for the **Israelites**. **St. Paul** calls us all to be awake from our sleep! Prepare ourselves and "*put on the armor of light*". This is preparing us for the battle, knowing that we will be living for **God**. Even **Jesus** urges us to stay awake and "...you also must be prepared..." We left ourselves at the end of the year asking, are you ready? Even working on our homework of examining the year as a whole. Now we look forward and move forward "being prepared" to take on the new year for a time of growing and deepening our relationship with **God** and each other.

*Fr. Mike*

## From the Pastor's Desk:

This Tuesday, November 29th will be the one day of giving which has now grown to be an annual event. The 24-hr day of giving named - **#weGIVECATHOLIC** is a day where we are all able to give back to the parish. The avenues by which you can give include; in person giving at the rectory office, mail-in (by Nov. 29th), online and by phone (with limited hours). Since the pandemic and starting here as the parish administrator, I know we have all seen the needs for repairs and updates desperately being needed around the entire campus, church, school, parking lot, and landscaping. Things have ranged from simply "*being tired*", to not working completely, to (*even*) *being a safety concern*. The drop in the Mass collections and increase in costs are *two very challenging facts of reality*. Yes, we will need to address the drastic drop in the collection, but for now we are utilizing the **#weGIVECATHOLIC** campaign as a means to "*keep the money here*" at **St. Thomas More**. Except for a minimal handling fee, close to 100% of the donated funds remain here at **St. Thomas More**. The funds last year and this year will allow us to finish the much needed repairs, renovations, and updates to the **Utopia Hall** area. This is an area that has aged very quickly since the use of the bingo program, and we need to get it back to a level where this area of **Utopia Hall** can be shared by the parish and community.

**PLEASE**-please... be sure to ask if you have any questions on how best to donate, as we are even going to be asking for prayers for a successful campaign. We thank all of those who have already donated incentive prizes, volunteered their time preparing, and (in advance...) for your donations to help us all. Together we'll be able to complete the necessary repairs, as **the parish of St. Thomas More**.

**Thank you ALL** for your help this year!

## TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of

**The Badza Family.**

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.**

## THANKFUL CORNER

Thank you to our Ministry of Consolation for hosting "Hope for the Holidays." This is such an important program to help those grieving a loss, especially during this time of year. Thank you to Cassandra Zabor for such an inspirational afternoon.

Also, our thanks goes out to Renee Barber who led the grief support meetings "Mourning to Morning." Renee led a group of parishioners on a wonderful healing journey. We are so grateful to our Bereavement team for all they do for our parish. Thank You!

## VOCATION CORNER

**Society of Jesus & Congregation of Holy Cross**

To learn more about the Society of Jesus and the Congregation of Holy Cross please visit the following

[www.jesuits.org](http://www.jesuits.org) or [www.holycrosscongregation.org](http://www.holycrosscongregation.org).

Please keep all of the Brothers and Priests 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 USA Midwest Jesuits, PO Box 6713, Carol Stream, IL 60197-6713 or Holy Cross Office of Vocations, United States Province of Priests and Brothers, PO Box 541, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556.

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The rectory will be closed on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.



## Prayer REQUESTS

Theodore Antrum, Albert Becerra, Robert Bonus, Jr., Barbara & Lloyd Bridle, Avianna Burgos, Eric Butler, Kellie Butler, Janet Call, Jeremy Cheetham, Rosemary Cimino, Noelle, Brian & Dylan Clark, Elizabeth DeLeon, Diana & Greg Downes, Sharon Erich, Tom Erich, Patricia Foerster, Norma Gademer, Ruth Giaco, Sr. Carole Anne Griswold, HM, Tom Hana, John Hearn, Bobby Hengoe, Doris Kaczmarek, Jesse Kazimer, Tom Knippenberg, Melissa Korhely, Jessica Kuhar, Raymond Kuhar, Charles & Helen Kuhel, Martha & George Kysil, Babs Lowe, Madonna, Scott & Family, Jane McClure, Sandy Meade, Vinny Mercurio, Carol Meredith, John Misch, Kathy Mitchell, Rafaela Morales, Josalynn Murray, Kaitlyn Oatridge, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Pat Palumbo, Peggy Palumbo, Augustus Petersen, Mary Ellen Popovich, Nancy Prosser, Monica Puleo, Paula Ritter, Marty Rose, Mike Sekerak, Brigitte Seuffert, Alexis Simecek, Renate Sliwka, Mary Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Justine Steadley, Carol Swancer, Jane Szoke, George Tapocsi, Anthony Tedesco, Lillian Tuma, Joy Turner, Julianna Turner, Wayne, Rev. Robert Wenz, Leroy Werley, Patricia Werley, Betty Wozniak and 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.



### IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember Sandra Toth and Claudia Dembek in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

### CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give!

Visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections).

### 2023 MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book for 2023 is now available at the rectory. 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 only schedule TWO (2) Masses per family.**

### SAINT QUOTE

*"Now all things have been filled with light, both heaven and earth and those beneath the earth; so let all creation sing Christ's rising, by which it is established."*

St. John of Damascus (1676-749),  
Priest, Doctor of the Church,  
Feast Day: December 4th

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

### WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

We will be collecting **NEW** adult hats, scarves and clothes. Please bring your items to the Deacon Marty room by Sunday, December 11th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### SISTERS OF THE INCARNATE WORD ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word Annual Raffle is underway. Tickets are \$5 each and the GRAND PRIZE is \$10,000! The drawing will be held on Friday, February 3, 2023. Tickets may be purchased from any Incarnate Word Academy student or by going online at [www.incarnatewordorder.org](http://www.incarnatewordorder.org) and selecting "Raffle Tickets" on the home page.

If you would like additional information, please call Sharron in the Sisters' Development office at 440-886-6440, ext.415.

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Father:** O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ Thy Son, our Lord.

**All:** Amen.



# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

### First Quarter Honors 2022-2023

#### **First Honors**

Sophia Adkins, Faith Akateh, Joel Akateh, Nevaeh Aldridge, Dominic Azap, Luna Basen, James Bekoscke, Brandon Breeden, Emma Brown, Reagan Burke, Nicolas Cajo Rubio, Jonathan Collins, II, Jackson Colon, Leyna Crew, Isabella Diaz, Jahaira Figueroa, Jariana Figueroa, Carter Gregg, Brodie Hill, Nathaniel Infante, Leilani Johnson, Brendon Kiscoe, Blake Liebert, Giovanna Magistro, Macie Meehan, Lucia Nunney, Ania Oshaben, Carter Pedraza, Aubrey Rankin, Parker Redloske, Anayeli Rivera, Mathew Rydzewski, Jacob Schillo, Chloe Scott, Abel Solley, Faith Stanley, Jordan Thomas, Sofia Torres, John Valencik, Alaina Vandal, Mia Viera, Leah Viera, Emma Wright, Cora Yankovitz

#### **Second Honors**

Jayden Cardenas, Ethan Cargill, Mia Glover, Christopher Hutchins, III, Layla Jacobson, Rylee Kingery, Ayden Lin, Shelby Miller, Kadam Rochford, Angelina Sandate, Emily Schillo, Kaydence Thompson, Ethan Tran, Samuel Widdowson

### HIGH SCHOOL HONORS

**St. Edward High School** honors the following alumni for receiving honors for the current grading period: Vincent Alflen.

**Trinity High School** honors the following parishioner for receiving honors for the first half term: Abigail Close.

# NOVEMBER 27, 2022

## CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. Questions? Contact Fr. Mike in our parish office at 216-749-0414 or Jean Ann Montagna of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x 8070 or visit

<https://www.catholiccommunity.org/ways-to-give/ira-qualified-charitable-distribution>.

### ST. LEO THE GREAT - UPCOMING PILGRIMAGE

Fr. James Schmitz is hosting a pilgrimage to Italy, March 20-30, 2023. Information is available on St. Leo's website: [www.leothegreat.org](http://www.leothegreat.org) under the News Column. Please contact the rectory office at 216-661-1006 with any questions.

### AM1260 THE ROCK

During the Holy Season of Advent as we prepare for the Birth of Jesus Christ and throughout the 48 hours of Christmas, AM 1260 The Rock will be broadcasting special programming from EWTN to enrich your celebration of the Nativity. Please visit our website at [www.am1260therock.com](http://www.am1260therock.com) for the most up-to-date schedule, including Christmas Masses, or call us at 216-227-1260. And may you and those you love have a blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas!

### FIRST FRIDAY LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 2ND

An inter-parish men's group will meet for a Luncheon at St. Clarence. Cost is \$16. Please call George at 440-937-6606 by November 29th to register.

### ADVENT GIVING TREE

The parish is collecting names for our Advent Giving Tree program. If you or someone you know (who lives within the parish boundaries) could use assistance for Christmas, please contact the rectory by November 27th. Tags for the program will be available in the church during the first and second week of Advent.



## CONGRATULATIONS!

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NEW CAR JOY!**



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AUTO LOAN**

Get a low-rate auto loan and tell us which Catholic School or Parish you would like to help.

We will  
**DONATE \$50**  
to your choice.

**APPLY TODAY!**  
[UNITYCATHOLICCU.ORG](http://UNITYCATHOLICCU.ORG)





## Northeast Ohio's Online Day of Catholic Giving

On **Tuesday, November 29, 2022** from 12:00am to 11:59pm, St. Thomas More is participating again in **#weGiveCatholic**, Northeast Ohio's Online Day of Catholic Giving. Our plan is to renovate the kitchen at Utopia Hall. To do that, we hope to raise \$40,000 during the #weGiveCatholic campaign. Please support us with your donation on that day. Just go to [www.wegivecatholic.org](http://www.wegivecatholic.org), search for St. Thomas More Parish and School (or go to our parish website, [www.stmparish.net](http://www.stmparish.net)), then click "Donate." You can also put your donation in the previous weekend's collection (November 26-27) or drop off or call your donation into the rectory on November 29th. Your donation will go a long way toward helping us upgrade the Utopia Hall kitchen. Mark your calendar!

### **ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Make a charitable donation to the new Angel Scholarship Fund and "turn tax dollars into tuition" through an Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 (\$1,500 if married filing jointly) against your 2022 state tax liability. Donations can be designated to benefit St. Thomas More School. For more information go to [www.catholiccommunity.org/angel](http://www.catholiccommunity.org/angel).

### **HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE**

There are 4 SPOTS LEFT! Join Fr. Josh Cochrac from St. Charles Borromeo Parish, along with Deacon Tom Cully from St. Mary Parish in Berea, on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land this January. The pilgrimage is from January 9-20. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that will bring the Bible to life! You can find out more information and register at [magitravelinc.com/holy-land](http://magitravelinc.com/holy-land). You can also contact Fr. Josh at [frjosh@stcharlesonline.org](mailto:frjosh@stcharlesonline.org). Registration deadline is December 1st.

### **MEN'S ADVENT RETREAT AT MQP**

The Men's Advent Retreat is Saturday, December 10th from 8:30am-2pm in the lower church. There is no charge, but please call the office to register.

## **WEEKLY CONTENT**

### **First Reading:**

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. (Is 2:4)

### **Psalm:**

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

### **Second Reading:**

It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. (Rom 13:11-12)

### **Gospel:**

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Mt 24:42)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2022**

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom

15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

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