

# 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)



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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 - 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](http://stmschool.com)



## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 – VIGIL

\*4:30 PM - Vicky Gustincic

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 –

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

9:00 AM - People of the Parish

11:00 AM - Father's Day Enrollment

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 29 –

### ST. THOMAS BECKET

8:15 AM - Beverly & Ted Madzia

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30 –

### SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

6:45 PM - Madeline Stimac

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 –

### ST. SYLVESTER I

4:30 PM - People of the Parish

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 –

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

10:00 AM - Mother's Day Enrollment

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 –

### SS. BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

8:15 AM - Deacon Martin Thiel

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 3 –

### THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

8:15 AM - Anselmo & Nazzarena Montali

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

\*Mass of Remembrance

# Financial Blessings

Collection for December 14th ..... \$1,842.50  
Maintenance ..... \$762.00  
Student's Weekly Offering (7 Envelopes) ..... \$62.00

Collection for December 21st ..... \$3,965.90  
Maintenance ..... \$838.00  
Student's Weekly Offering (5 Envelopes) ..... \$39.00

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

## THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

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### Monday, December 29

NO SCHOOL

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

### Tuesday, December 30

NO PSR OR SCHOOL

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

### Wednesday, December 31

NO SCHOOL, PSR OR ATHLETICS

12:00 PM Rectory Closing

### Thursday, January 1

RECTORY CLOSED

NO SCHOOL OR ATHLETICS

### Friday, January 2

RECTORY CLOSED

NO SCHOOL OR ATHLETICS

### Saturday, January 3

Utopia Rental

Rosary before Mass

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM CYO Basketball - Gym

### Sunday, January 4

Rosary before Masses

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

### PARISHSOFT - FAITH DIRECT

Faith Direct is now ParishSoft. You can log in at [giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-684](http://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-684).

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

### MUSIC MINISTRY

### SUNDAY'S HYMNS 12/28/25

**Processional Hymn:** #108

Wake From Your Sleep

**Offertory Hymn:** #80

Away In A Manger

**Communion:** #101

What Child Is This

**Closing:** #105

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

### HYMNS 1/1/26

**Processional Hymn:** #109

Angels We Have Heard On High

**Offertory Hymn:** #97

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

**Communion:** #694

Sing of Mary

**Closing:** #480

Let There Be Peace On Earth

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

The Lord be with you! Four weeks ago we paused our history of the Church to examine the theologies of Luther and Calvin. We now return to the 16th Century and the Church's major response to the Protestants: the Council of Trent.

From 1545 to 1563 the Church met in Trent, Italy, which had been chosen for its neutrality. The Council was not continuous but had three main periods that were in turn broken up into 25 sessions. Wars, plagues, and papal elections kept the cardinals and other senior officials quite busy.

In its first period of meeting the Council affirmed the Latin Vulgate as the official Bible and affirmed its canon. Protestants had rejected a number of books from the Bible, which became known as the deuterocanonical books. In doing so the Church affirmed the common sense perspective that someone - in this case the Church - needed to determine what was Scripture and what was not. Trent also affirmed that both Scripture and Tradition were equally valid sources of revelation and had both been entrusted to the Church by Christ.

In its second period (1551-52) the Council of Trent affirmed the Church's teaching about the Eucharist. Contrary to Luther and Calvin's ideas, the Church stated clearly that the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. Just as importantly the Church taught that the Mass is the Paschal Sacrifice and not just a mere remembrance of the event. The Church also defended the Sacrament of Penance as a real forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism and often necessary for the salvation of souls.

The Council went on hiatus for over a decade due to a war between the Holy Roman Emperor and Protestant princes of the Holy Roman Empire. When it resumed in 1562 the political landscape had shifted in the Holy Roman Empire and Lutheranism was there to stay. In light of that Peace of Augsburg, many in the Church wanted to demonstrate their sincere desire for reform. Accordingly, the final sessions of the Council of Trent focused on curbing obvious abuses, such as episcopal absenteeism and lack of discipline.

The Council of Trent deepened this movement of reform in the Church that would later be called the Counter Reformation. Whereas Catholic bishops and priests had tolerated a lot of lax behavior among themselves, the Church sought to instill fervor and good training in her clergy. For example, after Trent almost all priests would actually learn theology at seminaries and not merely from their local pastor.

The reforms of Trent may not have reconverted the Protestants, but they did bring new life into the Church. Those gathered at Trent would likely have never guessed that their work would define the Church for centuries. May we remember that all of work on earth is meant to echo into eternity.

In His Sacred Heart,  
*Fr. John*

## TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of:

**Madelyn Koranda.**

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

*"Remember the sufferings of Christ, the storms that were weathered...the crown that came from these sufferings which gave new radiance to the faith...All saints give testimony to the truth that without real effort, no one ever wins the crown."*

Thomas Becket (1117-1170),

Martyr, Bishop, Feast Day: December 28

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

## SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

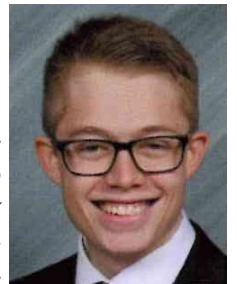
**Andrew Bendahan**

**St. Luke,**

**Lakewood**

**Discipleship II, Borromeo**

Please keep Andrew 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.



## 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 looks beautiful and we are so very grateful.





### 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 Hengood, Eddie Hengood, 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, 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.  
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.**

### ROSARY

Next weekend, January 3rd & 4th, a member of the parish will lead us in the rosary a half hour before each Mass. Come early and join us!

### 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.



### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations and welcome Adeline, Caleesi, Jaxxon & Noelle Baker who were baptized on December 14th.  
God bless you!

### WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 3/4

MASS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	SERVERS	CELEBRANT
4:30 PM	Terri Cottos Jill Parks Nina Ferguson Sheryl Finohr	Stephanie Liebert Steve Cottos	Blake Liebert Amy Vu	Fr. John Schneider
9:00 AM	Dolores Hules Heather Roberts Chris Koch Nathan Noga	Mike Sommers Jaclene Zauszniewski	Noah Redloske Holly Roberts	Fr. Don Snyder
11:00 AM	Patty Riegling Linda Rafferty Bernie Barker Marty Rini	Madelyn Koranda Barbara Kish	Cruz Colón	Fr. John Schneider

# Mary, Mother of God

©LPi



## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Let us pray...

God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary's yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother. We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you. Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace. We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. ©LPi

## ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Kindergarten through third grade students recently finished their gingerbread houses to create a gingerbread neighborhood in the downstairs hallway. Many students added their own take on the house, making small gingerbread men to peek out from behind the front door, or stars and crosses above or beside the doorway.



Our fourth grade students have been working hard on their one-point perspective drawings, combining math and art to create beautiful street scenes. Meanwhile, our fifth graders are working on their calligraphy, creating works with bible verses, while learning about The Book of Kells.

Sixth and seventh graders have been hard at work on painting self portraits and learning how to mix their complementary colors to create neutrals for hair, eyes, and skin.

Lastly, our eighth grade students are making wonderful miniatures. Students were given free range, allowing them to make very unique pieces using an abundance of different materials and methods along the way.

Mrs. Katen Stork



## PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear God,

Be with us as we begin our journey into a new year, we know that You hold us and go ahead of us. Help us to experience this year in Your grace.

Amen. ©LPi

## 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.

## 2025 CHRISTMASTIDE SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, December 31- New Year's Eve**

4:30 PM Vigil Mass

**Thursday, January 1, 2026 – New Year's Day**







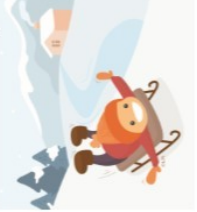





**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**

10:00 AM

## RECTORY HOURS

The rectory will close at noon on Wednesday, December 31st and will be closed on Thursday, January 1st and Friday, January 2nd.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY- SOLEMNITY OF MARY RECTORY CLOSED NO SCHOOL OR ATHLETICS 	<b>2</b> RECTORY CLOSED NO SCHOOL OR ATHLETICS	<b>3</b> Utopia Rental CYO Basketball 10am-1pm Confessions 3:30-4:15pm Rosary before Mass
				<b>8</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>9</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>10</b> Utopia Rental CYO Basketball 10am-2pm Confessions 3:30-4:15pm
<b>4</b> Rosary before Masses CYO Basketball 1pm-5pm 	<b>5</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>6</b> Praying the Sunday Readings 9:30am Basketball Practice 4-9pm PSR 6:30-7:45pm	<b>7</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm PTU Meeting 6pm	<b>15</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>16</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm 	<b>17</b> Holy Land Carvings Utopia Rental CYO Basketball 10am-2pm Confessions 3:30-4:15pm
<b>11</b> Confirmation Meeting 9-11:30am CYO Basketball 1pm-5pm 	<b>12</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>13</b> Praying the Sunday Readings 9:30am Basketball Practice 4-9pm PSR 6:30-7:45pm	<b>14</b> 12pm 60+ Club: Queen of the Holy Rosary Shrine @ Incarnate Word Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>22</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>23</b> Mass for Life 10am @ the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>24</b> CYO 9am-3pm Confessions 3:30-4:15pm
<b>18</b> Holy Land Carvings CYO Basketball 1pm-5pm	<b>19</b> NO SCHOOL Basketball Practice 4-9pm 	<b>20</b> Praying the Sunday Readings 9:30am Friends Supporting Friends 4-7pm Basketball Practice 4-9pm PSR 6:30-7:45pm	<b>21</b> Basketball Practice 4-9pm 	<b>29</b> Catholic Schools Week 60+ Club 1pm Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>30</b> Catholic Schools Week Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>31</b> Catholic Schools Week Utopia Rental Confessions 3:30-4:15pm 
<b>25</b> Catholic Schools Week School Open House 11am Mass 12:30-1:30pm Open House 	<b>26</b> Catholic Schools Week Basketball Practice 4-9pm	<b>27</b> Catholic Schools Week Praying the Sunday Readings 9:30am Women's Guild Board Meeting 1pm Basketball Practice 4-9pm PSR 6:30-7:45pm	<b>28</b> Catholic Schools Week Basketball Practice 4-9pm			