

ST. THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC PARISH
CONVENT STATION, N J
973-267-5330 · WWW.STMNJ.ORG



AUGUST 21, 2016

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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Weekly Eucharists

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm

Monday – Saturday: 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.

Holy Days

8:15 am, 12:10 pm, 7 pm

Parish Office Hours

Mon. - Wed, 9:30–2 pm

*Other times & days,
call to see if office
is open.*

www.stmnj.org

What's Happening This Week?

Sunday

Pound A Week
Gala Raffle Ticket Sale

Every Sunday

Pound A Week



New Bulletin?

Kind of... We are doing some experimenting, attempting to reduce our bulletin and paper use and expand the use of our website and the video screen in church. There are a number of motivations. The first is the environment and our responsibility to God's gift of creation. Secondly, without a large staff, we hope to reduce the number of hours needed to produce and print a weekly bulletin. Much material is unnecessarily repeated weekly in most parish bulletins.

Some parishioners are discussing the value and possibility of both electronic and print communication. There is an evangelization component but perhaps that can happen monthly rather than weekly.

We have already begun printing children's bulletins, available on the vestibule desk and a prayer list at the Gifts table along with the Book of Remembrance. This week, we've included names of homebound and sick parishioners.

We do need to evaluate the inclusion of advertisement and how we can best utilize their help and how to best promote them and their generosity. Meanwhile, we are looking for lots of ideas. Contact us, we could use your help.

Reminder: What is Pound a Week?

If every household could bring a pound of food a week, we could greatly help our neighbors in need- a lb. of pasta, a can of soup, a jar of sauce, anything. We have received public thanks by the pantry for our generosity.

As a faith community, we keep in mind who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God.



Special requests for prayers at liturgy and donations made in honor of loved ones. These intentions and names of our sick are noted on the Gifts Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.

Religious Education Registration

Please register your children for our Religious Education program this year. Go to the website stmnj.org and click on "CCD Registration" link on the top of the page. This is important so that we can have the proper materials for each child. Registration fee this year is \$30 per child. This is much less than most parishes since we believe that the whole parish has the responsibility of assisting parents in the religious formation of our young parishioners.



SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH
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THE
GREAT GATSBY

Saturday, October 29



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will grow.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016

Love is the ticket. Do you ever try to imagine what heaven is like? Do you wonder how it can possibly accommodate all people from all places and cultures from the beginning of time? Heaven is beyond all understanding and description, but as the Catechism puts it, it's a place of "supreme, definitive happiness" that will fulfill all your "deepest human longings." Sounds mighty nice, and everyone aims to get there. But how? Simple: love. However imperfectly, with faithful attempts. If you love God, there is a place for you there. Reserve it today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30 (123). "People will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and will take their place at the feast in the Kingdom."

MONDAY, AUGUST 22 QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Live like royalty. Celebrated a week after the Assumption, the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary glorifies the Mother of God not only as a shining example of fidelity to God's call but also as Queen of Heaven, an example of wholeness and holiness in heaven and on earth. Artist Robert Graham's depiction of Mary above the bronze doors of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles captures this beautifully. Without a veil or halo, the statue has a dignity that shines from within. A life of faith is the crown we wear; Mary, be our guide.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12; Matthew 23:13-22 (425). "We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23 — ST. ROSE OF LIMA

More than meets the eye. Saint Rose knew that outer beauty was only skin deep. Her pretty face, which gained her the nickname of Rose, could give her the fine marriage her family wanted for her. But Rose rejected all suitors, and ignored all objections. Instead, she devoted herself to a life of prayer and penance. How can you more deeply develop your own life with the Lord? What can you do to cultivate inner beauty—your own and others'?

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17; Matthew 23:23-26 (426). "Cleanse first the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may be clean."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24 - ST. BARTHOLOMEW

Come and see. Curiosity is correlated to happiness. Studies show that the more curious people are, the more they engage in growth-oriented behaviors and the greater their sense of life meaning and satisfaction. The Apostle Bartholomew, also called Nathaniel, sought God with an eager heart, and the whole world

opened up for him. Tradition says this humble man introduced Christianity to Armenia, left a copy of the Gospel of Matthew in India, and missioned in other far-flung places. Curiosity about Christ can lead you, too, to the joy of discovery.

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51 (629). "You will see greater things than this."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Get dirty. There is little resemblance between Louis, king of France, and Joseph Calasanz, the saints celebrated today. They lived entirely different lives, but both were men of extraordinary compassion and both literally got their hands dirty helping people in terrible circumstances. Although a king, Louis ministered to lepers; Joseph cared for victims of the plague. A king, an ordinary priest, an ordinary you and me—all of us are called to show mercy and, as Pope Francis says, not be afraid to get our hands dirty. Are your fingernails a little too clean?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Matthew 24:42-51 (428). "Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

A place at mercy's table. This year we're invited to consider mercy as a door open to receive the sinner as a cherished guest. Long before it was a door, mercy was a table set by Jesus. Jesus offers a cup that signals a "new and everlasting covenant for the forgiveness of sins." Jesus' habit of eating with sinners assures us that a seat at his table has never been a prize awarded to the virtuous, but a sign of his eagerness to share the wine of his compassion with those who are thirstiest for it. Have a seat!

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 1:17-25; Matthew 25:1-13 (429). "Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?"

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 — ST. MONICA

Never lose heart. No discussion of St. Monica is complete without reference to her son, St. Augustine. She would quickly fade into the background if it weren't for her legendary patience and persistence in prayer for her son's conversion. For mothers, fathers, and grandparents today praying that their children return to the practice of the faith, realize that God's love doesn't come and go. It is always present. Like you, God waits for his children who have wandered off. Like Monica, do not give up hope; place your concern in God's hands.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 25:14-30 (430). "Do not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."

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