

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH



CONVENT STATION, NEW JERSEY · 973-267-5330 · WWW.STMNJ.ORG

JANUARY 31, 2016

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In the end,
there are
three things
that last

FAITH
HOPE
and LOVE

and the greatest
of these is
LOVE

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Mail: P.O. Box 286
Convent Station, NJ 07961

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Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

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?

Sunday

No Religious Ed
 Pound A Week
 Anointing of the Sick, 11 am Mass



This Week

Thurs., Pastoral Council, 7:30

Next Sunday

Religious Ed.

Every Sunday

Pound A Week



Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of the value of catholic education. While we do not have a parish school, we stand in solidarity with our neighbor schools. Once again, we remind parishioners who choose catholic schools for their children that they need not change parishes and that our parish shares responsibility toward their education.

Ministry to the Homebound

If you know a homebound person who would like communion and/or on a regular basis, if you are ministering in that way OR if you can visit and/or bring communion to a homebound person, please fill out the form on the info rack in the vestibule.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

What do you do when a message you are trying to deliver "falls on deaf ears"?

For Children:

Are there times when you have not listened as well as you could to what someone was telling you? Why didn't you?



WELCOME

To all our visitors this weekend

Please remember the sick and homebound of our Parish.

We are all called to prayer. As a faith community, let us keep in mind all those who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God



Peter An, Phil Barrett, Elaine Bellock, Eric Braham, Pat Brennan, Ronald & Maureen Brodeur, Dominic Cantarella, Jim Cavanaugh, Kay Cavanaugh, Michael Cavaliere, Cheryl, John Dolan, Dan Doyle, Frank Falcone, Joe & Peg Farrell, Mike Faul, Mary Finlay, John Flaherty, William Kilminster, Hayley Kuhn, Maria Ludwig, Joseph Montgomery, Adalcina Antao Moreira, Fr. Charles Parr, Michael Papalos, John Pra, Christopher Raiola, Tom Warren, Diane Zadrozny.

If you know someone whose name should be removed, please keep us informed. To add a name, please fill out the form on the website or in the rectory.

Kidsword

Ordinary Time Week 4

Luke 4, Jeremiah 1

January 31, 2016

From out of the depths, O Lord, I cry;
 I do your will, at least I _____;
 But those who hate you hate me as well;
 When I spoke your words,
 They pushed, I _____.
 So here I am, here I sit,
 Alone, afraid, inside this _____.

Fill in the missing words.
 They are in the pit.



I look up, look for the _____,
 But all I see is darkness, night;
 I love you God, but can't see _____;
 Your servants sometimes suffer, die;
 I trust you though I cannot _____
 Why those who hate you
 Also hate _____.

YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE TALKING TO PEOPLE LIKE YOU DO! WHERE DO YOU GET ALL THESE IDEAS FROM ANYHOW?



PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

The prophet Isaiah lived about 750 years before Christ. His enthusiastic response to God's call led to a prophetic career that lasted over 40 years. In this brief passage, we find not only the source for the "Holy, Holy" in the Mass, but also the prayer before reading the Gospel (asking God to cleanse one's lips), and finally the refrain from a frequently used contemporary hymn.

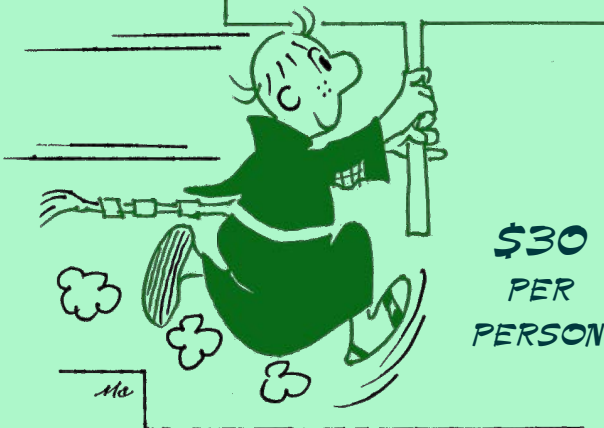
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

We continue our reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. Some members of the community had questioned the bodily resurrection of Jesus, and our own resurrection as well. This passage is Paul's response. It pre dates the Gospels and is the oldest written record of the Church's core tradition about Christ's resurrection.

Parish on a Journey

GET READY

ST. PATRICK DAY PARTY
SATURDAY, MARCH 19
6 - 10 PM
VFW HALL
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RUN & TELL EVERYONE

IF YOU GIVE US THEIR EMAILS,
WE'LL SEND THEM EVITES!

God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart

Readings for this Sunday
Jeremiah 1:4-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30

Trusting God in Times of Crisis

Suggested Reflection Questions

- The first reading includes words of encouragement to the beleaguered and besieged prophet God promises to deliver Jeremiah from those who fight against him. From what do you need God's deliverance and protection this week?
- God is our strength when we are vulnerable and our guide in the way of justice. What wondrous deeds can you do this week to proclaim God's steadfast love to someone in crisis?
- Jesus returns to his hometown to teach in the synagogue. Hearing his words, the crowd drives him to the edge of a cliff. Instead of being hurled over the edge, Jesus passes through their midst and continues on his way. Sometimes speaking up for what's right isn't exactly popular. Is there a difficult conversation you've been putting off? Pray for the courage to have it and ask God to help you pass through the midst of your fear and hesitation with love.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2016 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Calling all Christians!

As Christians, we strive to be attuned to God’s calling in our lives. But what if God’s calling seems to take us in unexpected and even unwanted directions? Scripture offers many examples of this. Moses initially resists God’s invitation. Mary’s “yes” is preceded by perplexed astonishment. Jeremiah argues that he just isn’t capable of what God has in mind for him. These are understandable reactions, ones we too may have felt in response to situations God seems to be calling us to. Walk with the saints and prophets today, reflecting on and celebrating God’s calling in your life.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31-31:4-13; Luke 4:21-30 (72).* “*Ab, Lord God! I said, ‘I do not know how to speak. I am too young!’*”

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Thank you to our spiritual “first responders”

In every society since the beginning of recorded history spiritual experts such as clergy and holy men and women were the go-to healers when someone in the community was troubled and having difficulties coping. Religious men and women continue to play an important role in mental healthcare, typically as first responders. As we close the Year of Consecrated Life, it is good for us to remember the important work of our men and women in religious life who are often active on the margins reaching out to the most vulnerable and helping “cast out the demons” that keep good people from living full, productive lives.

TODAY’S READINGS: *2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20 (323).* “*They caught sight of the man who had been possessed by Legion, sitting there clothed and in his right mind.*”

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
Happily Candlemas!

The Presentation of the Lord, or Candlemas, marks the ritual presentation of Jesus in the Temple 40 days after his birth, as was the Jewish custom. On the day the infant Jesus was presented, Simeon, a devout and just man, couldn’t help but declare Christ’s glory at the sight of the child. “My eyes have seen your salvation!” Traditionally, Candlemas is marked by a blessing of and procession with candles, an act that signifies the light brought into the world by Christ. Simeon witnessed that light firsthand; today, why not be a walking celebration of Candlemas? Shine Christ’s light for the world to see!

TODAY’S READINGS: *Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524).* “*And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek.*”

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 FEAST OF BLAISE, BISHOP, MARTYR
May your words bring healing

Tradition has it that fourth-century Armenian bishop Blaise once saved the life of a boy who had a fish bone caught in his throat. Thus it came to be that for centuries, and still in many parishes today, Catholics honor this martyred saint by having their throats blessed on his feast day. Perhaps you will have the chance to participate in this age-old ritual today. But if not, you might pause and ask God to protect not only your throat but also your tongue and the words that flow from it. Ask for the grace to work in tandem with God so that the words you speak will be marked by love and compassion.

TODAY’S READINGS: *2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6 (325).* “*What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands!*”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4
God heals us in the dark days

The ministry of discipleship is one of healing that is as old as scripture and endures for all time. To that end, the church offers the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick to all who are seriously ill or who face major surgery. Those partaking of the sacrament are anointed with oil as they hear the words: “Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.” It is sacramental grace that assures you when you are ill and suffering that the One who suffered for all people will not leave you alone in your own dark time.

TODAY’S READINGS: *1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13 (326).* “*They expelled many demons, anointed the sick with oil, and worked many cures.*”

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 FEAST OF AGATHA, VIRGIN, MARTYR
Save our children

The World Health Organization estimates that 150 million girls under the age of 18 have experienced sexual violence. And U.S. studies estimate that one in four girls and one in six boys experience some form of sexual abuse before age 18. Further studies indicate that 93 percent of reported sexual assaults of juveniles in the United States are committed by someone known to the victim. Indifference to these tragic statistics, which the Centers for Disease Control warn have severe health and social consequences, is a sin of the gravest order. Ask for the intercession of Saint Agatha, patron of rape and torture victims, to spur action among all of us to protect the most vulnerable in our society.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29 (327).* “*When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.*”

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 FEAST OF PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS
Be happy even in times of trial

For those who live in a 21st-century democracy, it is difficult to grasp that in some times and places, death has been the punishment for those who preach their Christian faith. Yet the cruelty of martyrdom is part of our history. In late 16th-century Japan, Jesuit brother Paul Miki was crucified along with other Jesuits, Franciscans, and laypeople for sharing the Good News. It is said that from the cross Miki reminded his followers to “ask Christ to help you to become happy.” That simple prayer, if asked and answered by each of us, will have a profound effect on our lives.

TODAY’S READINGS: *1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34 (328).* “*They returned to Jesus and reported all that they had done and what they had taught.*”



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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Who, Where Why, How ...

Why is Ash Wednesday so early?

Obviously it all depends on Easter. Its earliest possible date is Feb. 4 (when Easter is Mar. 22 – less than once a century). The beginning of Lent varies with churches. Western Catholics begin 46 days before Easter (40+Sundays); eastern Catholics and orthodox begin two days earlier and ends before Great (Holy) Week.

Forty is important in scripture. Whether in the desert or on an ark, days or years, forty is a probation time, resulting in change. Lent is a time of change or, to use a better current word, Conversion. We are called on Ash Wednesday to emerge on Easter as changed and better persons. So, get ready. Ash Wednesday is around the corner.

Ashes are placed on the heads or foreheads of Christians, tracing back to early church penitents. Placing on the forehead probably began when women wore hats in church. In parts of Europe and South America, they are still placed on the crown of the head. There is also no prescription for a cross although that is the regular sign used.

Welcome to St. Thomas More Parish

We are glad you decided to celebrate with our Parish Family. If you have recently moved into the parish and would like to register as a parishioner, please take a parish membership form at the entrances of the church or email and we will send you a form. Hopefully we can set up an appointment to meet one another. Or you may call the parish office at 973-267-5330.

SOME MINISTRIES and ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Servers	Bereavement Ministry
Bulletin	Collection Counters
Finance Council	Home/Sick Visits
Lectors/Ministers of Communion	Youth Ministry
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Ushers/Greeters
Women's Guild	Pastoral Council



Whether you are new or a veteran, consider joining or helping in the various areas of parish life. Call the office. Interested in something you don't see, don't be shy, talk to Fr. Joe.

Visit of Eucharist at Home. Communion may be brought to the home of any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the confined, elderly and/or shut-in at home or in the hospital, our parish ministers make calls to homes and hospitals. Fill out the form below..

Moving In or Out? If you are relocating either in or out of the parish area please takes a moment to help keep our records current. Contact the parish office or drop a note into the collection basket.

Pound A Week. Show how much we care! Bring a pound of goods when you come to church. Pasta, tuna, powdered milk or soup. Peanut butter or jelly or crackers. Even a pound of diapers. While shopping add a pound!

The following person(s) is presently receiving a visit and/or communion

The following person(s) would like a regular visit and/or communion.

Name: _____

You may call me with specifics (address, etc.): _____

_____ Tel. or email: _____



Notes & Remembrances

Remembering our Own

Requests and donations were made in honor of the following, asking to remember them at liturgy this week. Please join with them in prayer and remembrance.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mary & Joseph Montgomery 5 pm

Baby Sweeney – Mon.
Gloria Sweeney – Wed.
Gloria Sweeney – Thurs.
Gloria Sweeney – Fri.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Emma Randall & Fam. 5 pm
Emily Zaila, 11 am

Parking in our Lot

We are pleased to accommodate parishioners who park in our lot when using the train. We have black identifying hangers to be placed in the car while parked. We also ask parkers to park in the last aisle, nearest the second lot. This will help when we have funerals or other events.

Recently there have been many more “unmarked” cars in the lot.

The second lot (our lot) is for our use on weekend, so you can park in that lot for masses. Once the snow is gone, we will try to open the chain on weekends which will offer another way out of our lots.

Did you know which masses were canceled last weekend? Did you know there were updated announcements on our website (www.stmnj.org), our new phone system and facebook? Did you miss last week's bulletin? Yep, on our website. Oh, if you haven't done so, yet, don't forget to check out our website!



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Bill McGuire, parish mgr, wmcguire@stmnj.org, ext. 104
Pat Schell, secretary, secretary@stmnj.org, ext. 103
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