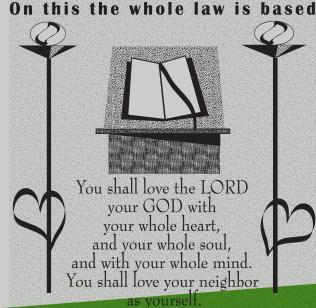
# St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

**Convent Station, NJ** 973-267-5330 • www.stmnj.org

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time** 



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 Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.



October 29, 2017 • Day of the Lord

#### **Religious Education**

Rel. Ed. begins Oct. 22. Registration on the front of the parish website.

We can still use volunteers for programming or instruction.

#### Feast of all Saints

Masses on Wed., All Saints Day are at 8:15, 12:10 and 7 pm.

# Thanksgiving is 7 weeks away

We are helping the Interfaith Food Pantry prepare Thanksgiving baskets. They need help with turkeys, turkey breast, ham or large chicken; stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, yams, pasta, corn, soups, juices, cranberry sauce. Fresh fruit, potatoes, onions and yams are good, too.

Join our parish drive coordinated by Ginny Macko with the help of others or go directly to the food pantry, by. They will be open until 7:45 on Nov. 8 & 15.

# Autumn Joy

As seasons turn their endless cycle round in perfect rhythm with the tilting globe, summer nurturing gives way to autumn harvest, with a bounty of earth's goods filling baskets and jars and freezers that overflow with preserved joy against the winter gloom.

#### Fundraiser for Carmel & Mission

Dinner Dance to benefit Mary Queen of All Nations Missionary Alliance and the Carmel, Sun. Dec. 10, 6 pm at the Madison Hotel. Cost \$ 75. RSVP: 973-285-0307 by November 2.

#### Women's Advent Retreat

Tues., Dec. 5, 9:30 - 2:30. Sisters of Charity Motherhouse. Free will offering. RSVP: lpechello@scnj.org by Nov. 28. Info: 973-290-5325.

## **An Evening with Sisters**

For H.S. & college aged women discerning their vocation. Nov. 13, 7-9 pm, Villa Walsh. Food & drink provided. Info: Delegate for Religious at 973-777-8818 ext. 207, or kerry@patersondiocese.org.

#### Health Plan Enrollment Period

New regulations cut enrollment for Affordable Health Care in half, from this Wed. until Dec. 15 instead of Jan. 31. This is the only time you can enroll in a health plan on the individual market without qualifying for special enrollment.

Meditate on the scriptures during the week. Take Five for Faith is located on the website. Pull down "Faith Formation" and find it at the bottom.

# PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Malachi 1: 14-2:10

The book of Malachi was written after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon. The prophet expresses God's displeasure because, once the people returned to their homeland and enjoyed better times, they grew lax in their religious practices. Today's passage is directed to the Jewish priests in the temple, scolding them for their carelessness and indifference.

Second Reading: 1 Thess. 2: 7–13
Thessalonica was a city in
northeastern Greece, where
Christians were being persecuted. So Paul wrote them a friendly
and encouraging letter. In today's
passage we will hear him use a
touching image to describe his
relationship with these people
whom he loves.

This Week's Question For Adults:

In a practical sense, what is one thing that would change in your life if you loved your neighbor as yourself?

For Children: Why is it hard sometimes to love your neighbor?

- Zoe Gagliano
- 2 Lisa Breslauer
- Nan O'Donnell 2
- Chris Kohl 3
- Dorothy Crawley 6
- Nate Miller 6
- 6 Rocco Nisivoccia
- Anthony Garolfalo 10
- Anne Morrison 11
- Mary Ellen Farrell 12
- Brian Limbo 14
- Mia Nisivoccia 14
- Vincent Achilarre 16
- Piotr Politowicz 16
- Nico Garolfalo 17
- "Happy Birthday!" Carol Schwaeble 18
- Kathy Means-Anthony 20

Wish These Friends a

- Terri O'Brien
- Valerie Burce 25
- Len Bendzin

## Happy Halloween

Halloween has its origins in the ancient pagan Celtic and Roman fall festivals which commemorated the new year and the passing of the dead. Pope Boniface VI set Nov. 1 as All Saint's Day, or All Hallowsmas, from Middle English. When Nov.2 was made All Souls Day 200 years later, the three days' celebration was called Hallowmas. The customs of Halloween evolved over time, some rooted in ancient rites, others in remembrance of those who had died. These feasts were Christianized by new meanings, although today it remains largely a secular holiday. ~Rev. James Gaffney

# **Parish Sustainability Committee**

Learn about Pope Francis document on responsibility to the environment and people. Join a new parish committee.



#### This Sunday

Rel. Ed.

Tues. - Women's Guild Octoberfest

Wed. - Feast of All Saints

Thurs. - Commemoration of All Souls

**Next Sunday** 

Rel. Ed.

**Every Sunday** 

Pound A Week

Stewardship of Treasure

Last week's

Collection: \$ 6592

Sign up Today for electronic giving

stthommore.weshareonline.org





**Reformation Anniversary** 

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther, monk and professor posted 95 talking points regarding the matter of repentance and forgiveness of sins for academic discussion, in Latin. Someone translated them into German, which launched what came to be called the Protestant Reformation. The Reformation has had profound influence on the course of history, and official extreme feelings within the Church. The immediate issue that seems to have prompted Luther's action was the sale of "indulgences." Tetzel, an enterprising Dominican monk was raising funds for St. Peter's Basilica and the Archbishop of Mainz, selling indulgences and erasing punishment due after a sin was forgiven.

As a bible scholar, Luther was also convinced of St. Paul's teaching that christians are justified by faith. This all let to a confrontation between the Pope and Luther. Luther was eventually excommunicated in 1521.

The Catholic Church has long since corrected abuses against which Luther spoke. Today many Catholic scholars recognize many of Luther's contributions with respect. Protestants today have much in common with Catholics, recognize each other as sisters and brothers in the faith.

I have held many things in my hands,

and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.

Martin Luther

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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.

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