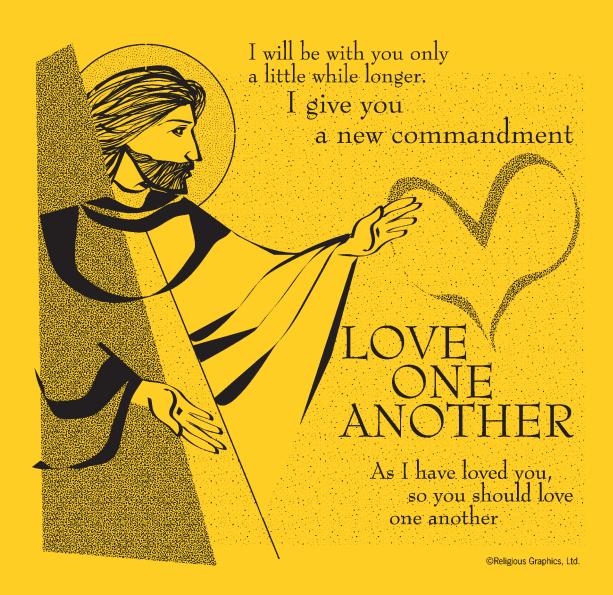


CONVENT STATION, NEW JERSEY , 973-267-5330 , WWW.STMNJ.ORG

**APRIL 24, 2016** 

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



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GPS: 4 Convent Rd.

Morristown, NJ 07960

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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

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

www.stmnj.org

Parish Office Hours Mon. - Wed, 9:30-2 pm

### What's Happening?

Sunday

Religious Ed
Pound A Week
Campaign For Human
Development Collection

Women's Guild Mtg., Tues., 7 pm Finance Council Mtg., Tues., 7:30 pm

Next Sunday . Religious Ed.

**Every Sunday**Pound A Week

### **Pics for Website**

Send whatever you have to the rectory: info@stmnj.org

#### **Attention Lefties**

3 Left Handed Baseball Mitts available: Catcher, First Base and Fielder. If interested, call Elizabeth at 973-540-0553.

### **Heifer Project**

Make a donation to purchase animals for needy families. You can donate a share of an animal. Forms are in the vestibule. Make checks payable to St. Thomas More. This will continue our Heifer project until Pentecost.

### **Women's Guild News**

The Womens Guild meeting is Tuesday at 7 pm Our speaker will be Jill Duff on "HOME SAFETY" All are welcome.

The Womens Guild will hold its Cake Sale April 30 & May 1st, Each member please bring 4 items.

### **Open House**

Academy of St. Elizabeth, May 1, 1 pm Info: 973-290-5225 or aosenj.org.

### **Recital: Luke Basile, Baritone**

Luke's Junior Recital at Rutgers is Sat., April 30, noon at the Richard H. Shindell Choral Hall, Rutgers, 81 George St., New Brunswick. A great occasion to support an STM parishioner.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

When have you seen the power of love overcome a bad situation?

For Children:

Do you believe love is stronger than hate? Why?

# WELCOME

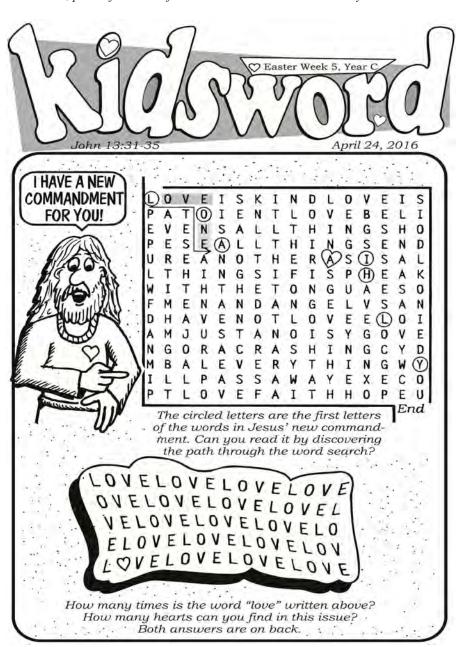
To all our visitors this weekend

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, Hayley Kuhn, Maria Ludwig, Joseph Montgomery, Adalcina Antao Moreira, Fr. Charles Parr, Michael Papalos, John Pra, Christopher Raiola, Josephine Rapp, 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.





## PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 15.1-29

It is about 20 years after Jesus' death and resurrection. The Church is already experiencing questions about its doctrine and practices. In today's reading, the Church is dealing with the major problem of whether to impose circumcision and observance of the Jewish law on its Gentile converts.

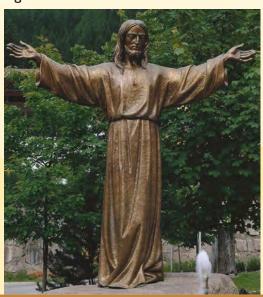
**Second Reading**: Revelation 21.10-23

Revelation is an Easter book because it focuses on the Risen Jesus and our final victory over sin and death. In this passage, the author uses such phrases as "heavenly Jerusalem" or "new Jerusalem" to describe the Church in its glory at the end of time.

## Parish on a Journey

Journey to the Past • Move to the Future

What's that new rock doing at the church entrance by the circular drive? It is for a statue, Welcoming Christ, to be erected soon, thanks to the generosity of a parishioner. It marks the Jubilee Year of Mercy that speaks of the welcoming compassionate nature of Jesus and his call to us as Church to do likewise. It also begins a couple of years of celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of our parish and then our church building. All are Welcome!



### God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart Readings for this Sunday Acts 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5; John 13:31-35

Love One Another
Suggested Reflection Questions

- The apostles continue to gather leaders for the early church and share the good news of God's love with others. They warn that there will be hardships, but encourage believers to continue to have faith. When have you gone through a personal or spiritual hardship? Who or what helped you to preserve?
- We know that even Jesus suffered hardships. In the Gospel reading, Jesus alludes to his upcoming death and also gives the disciples the command to "love one another." This isn't always easy — especially when we talk about the "one another" we might disagree with or who has hurt us. How might you demonstrate the command to love one another in a challenging situation? What's one way this week that you can move outside of your comfort zone to show love or care for another?



SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Traveling mercies

Believers have always been a people on the move! From our earliest forebears to the present time, traveling has been a way to share the faith. Although the modes of travel have changed enormously over time—from walking for days from town to town to flying cross-country in a few hours—travel still presents opportunities to witness to the faith and encourage others in theirs. Today, whether you're traveling a short distance or far away, how might you proclaim the Good News among the people you encounter on the journey?

Today's Readings: Acts 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35 (54). "Then they traveled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. After proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia."

MONDAY, APRIL 25 FEAST OF MARK, EVANGELIST Are you a light sleeper?

Tradition had it that lions slept with their eyes open (perhaps because no one was able to sneak up on one without being detected!). The lion became a symbol of the Resurrection, conveying the sense that though Jesus died he slept lightly, so to speak, before awakening to eternal life. Mark the evangelist, the traditional author of the gospel that bears his name, is also often depicted as a lion. Pull up a chair and read the gospel that bears Mark's name—it's short enough to be read in its entirety in an afternoon. And it's a real eye-opener!

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20 (555). "Clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another."

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 EASTER WEEKDAY Never say die

Saint Paul may have been a late bloomer (he persecuted early Christians before seeing the light—literally), but once he came around, he was a tireless promoter of the new faith. His enthusiasm led to many conflicts with the powers that be—whether with Jewish hierarchs concentrated in Jerusalem or civil authorities scattered throughout the Roman Empire. He risked life and limb, and eventually is believed to have been beheaded in Rome because of his faith. Along the way, he even survived a stoning and kept on going. How do you handle obstacles and opposition? Don't throw in the towel if you meet resistance. If your motivations are sincere, trust and persevere.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a (286). "They stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead."

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 EASTER WEEKDAY Mercy vs. justice

It can seem like a wrestling match of cosmic proportions. How can God, who is infinitely just, also be infinitely merciful? It seems evident to us that in most matters, God will have to choose which "mood" to demonstrate, since one can't exercise both at the same time. Priest, writer, and theologian Henri Nouwen assessed that the problem lies in us and not in God: While we can't master both attributes, God's mercy doesn't weaken divine justice, nor does God's justice harden divine compassion. Celebrate that God's will is done when mercy and justice are one!

Today's readings: Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 (287). "Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own, so neither can you unless you remain in me."

## THURSDAY, APRIL 28 FEAST OF PETER CHANEL, PRIEST, MARTYR Do something beautiful for God

Pope Saint John Paul II reminded us that persecution and martyrdom were elements not only of the early church but also of our own times under many repressive powers. Martyrdom is the "most eloquent proof of the truth of the faith, for faith can give a human face even to the most violent of deaths and show its beauty even in the midst of the most atrocious persecution." Peter Chanel, a 19th-century missionary, became the first martyr of the South Seas witnessed to Christ (martyr means "witness"). Have you felt the sting of witnessing to Christ lately?

Today's readings: Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11 (288). "As the Father loves me, so I also love you."

### FRIDAY, APRIL 29

## FEAST OF CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Live your faith large

"Do not be satisfied with little things, because God wants great things!" These words from Catherine of Siena in the 14th century remind us that we're all called by God and have gifts and talents to make a difference in the world. As a young woman, Catherine likely didn't imagine that one day she would become a Third Order Dominican, establish a monastery, communicate with the papacy, and leave a rich spiritual legacy as a Doctor of the church. She attuned her heart to God, trusting that God was at work in and through her life. Walk with Catherine today, celebrating God's great activity in your life!

Today's readings: Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 (289). "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain."

## SATURDAY, APRIL 30 FEAST OF PIUS V, POPE, RELIGIOUS Semper reformanda—always reforming

You might not see much connection between Pope Pius V 400 years ago and Pope Paul VI in our own time. Yet both led the church to implement reforms—the former after the Council of Trent, the latter after Vatican II—and both faced serious resistance from within. Pope Francis likewise faces resistance to shaping a church for the poor. We will always be "in these times of transition." Are you change-repellant or willing to reform yourself in a concrete way as Christ leads you?

Today's readings: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 (290). "You do not belong to the world."



# Who, Where Why, How ooo What is Heaven Like?

Heaven is our true home. Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" (Jn 14:2) "Those who die in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live forever with Christ... Heaven is the ultimate end and fulllment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, denitive happiness" (Catechism. No.1023, 1024). To give some idea of what Heaven is like, think of the people you love and the happy times you enjoy here and now on earth. Those things are glimpses of the joy we will experience in Heaven, which is an eternal moment of love. In Heaven, there is no suffering or sorrow. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, (for) the old order has passed away" (Revelation 21:4). Finally, in Heaven we will see God face-to-face. What is Heaven like?

### 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
Bulletin
Finance Council
Lectors/Ministers of Communion
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Women's Guild

Bereavement Ministry
Collection Counters
Home/Sick Visits
Youth Ministry
Ushers/Greeters
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

Special requests for prayers at liturgy and donations are made in honor of loved ones. Please join with them in prayer and remembrance at Eucharist. These intentions are noted on the Gifts Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.

### **Stewardship of Treasure**

Easter Collection: \$ 5,456

### Love One Another

Good and loving God, you have showered us with abundant grace.

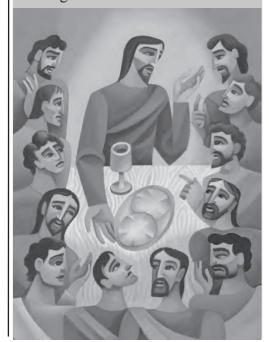
In Christ, you revealed your glory and announced the coming of the Kingdom.

On the night before Jesus died, he instructed the disciples to love one another. Give us a desire to share Christ's love.

When faced with temptation, we, like Judas, often turn away from you and refuse to show mercy and compassion.

Strengthen our resolve to follow you with a desire for justice and charity, so that we may be united to the mission of your Son.

Rouse us from our complacency and animate our souls by sending your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the Resurrection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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