

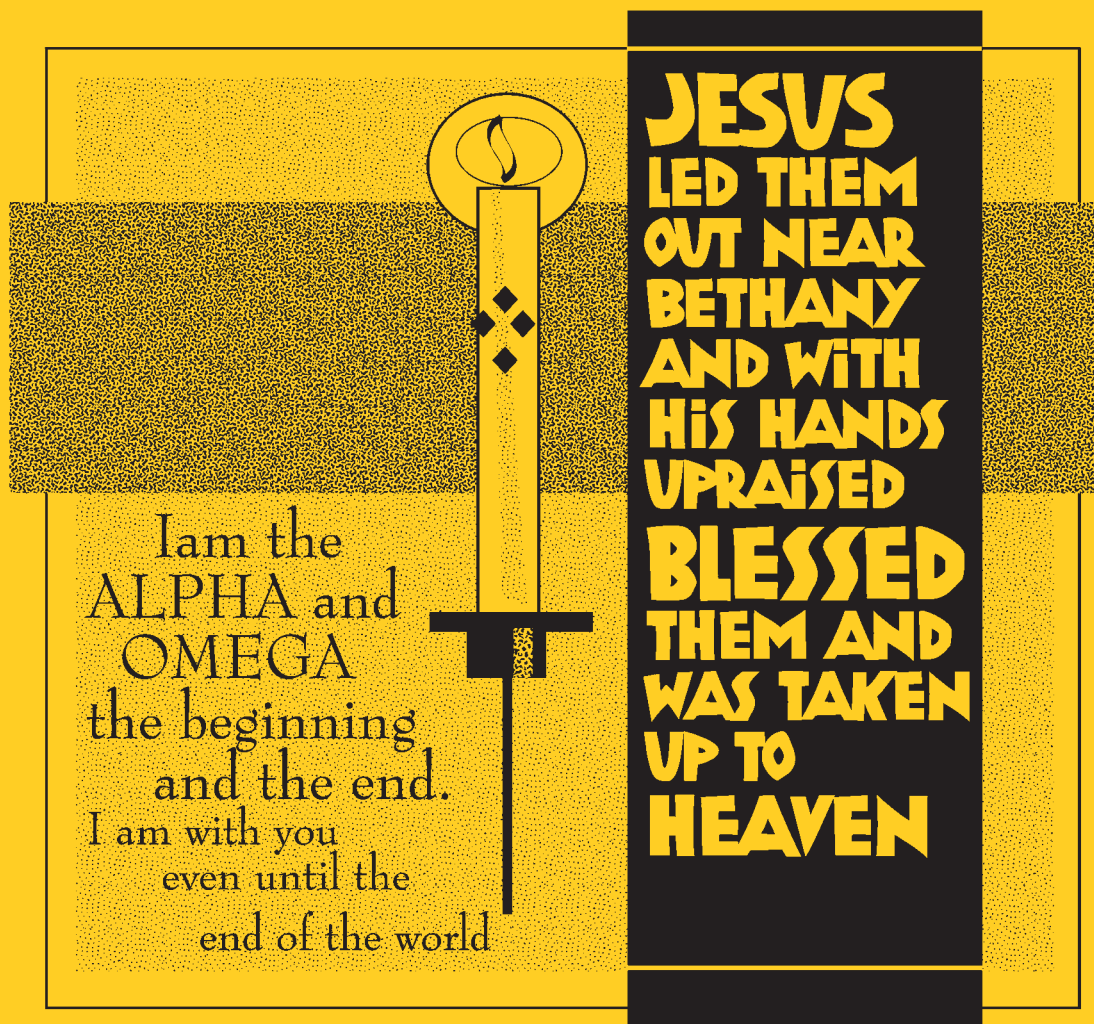
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH



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

MAY 8, 2016

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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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?

Sunday

Religious Ed
Pound A Week
Monthly Clothing Collection



Pastoral Council Mtg., 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

First Communion, 11 am. **Come All to Celebrate with our young parishioners**

Every Sunday

Pound A Week

Pics for Website

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

Catholic Digest

Complimentary Catholic Digests are available in the vestibule.

Heifer Project

Make a donation to purchase animals for needy families. Two weeks left

The God Box

The Sisters of Charity are hosting a Spring Luncheon at Spring Lake Bath and Tennis Club on Tues. June 7, 11:30 am. The special guest speaker is Mary Lou Quinlan, author of "The God Box: Sharing my Mother's Gift of Faith, Love and Letting Go." \$125 per person. Proceeds benefit the Sisters of Charity. Contact the Sisters of Charity Development Office, 973-290-5409. Tickets are limited!

Where is God in our Grief?

Resurrection Parish in Randolph is conducting a free workshop, May 14, 9-11 am. Children and adults welcome. Discussions and activities at age appropriate levels. RSVP by May 10. info on bulletin board.

Have a Good Summer

Good-bye to our regular worshippers from the colleges, finishing finals and re-tuning home. See you in September, and for the graduates—Congratulations!



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.

Kidsword

Easter Week 7, Year C

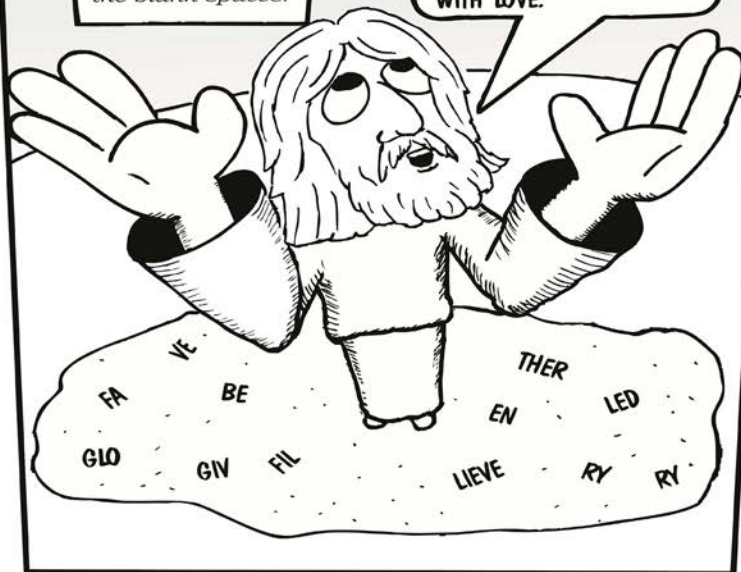
John 17

May 8, 2016

Jesus Prays for Us

The missing words are at Jesus' feet, but they are split in half. Match the half words on the left with those on the right, then put the words into the blank spaces.

_____, I PRAY FOR
ALL WHO WILL _____
IN ME. I HAVE _____
THEM THE _____ THAT
YOU GAVE ME. I WANT
THEM TO BE _____
CLOSE; TO BE LIKE
YOU AND I, _____
WITH LOVE.



This Week's Question

For Adults:

What are some of the most important things to ask of God?

For Children:

What are some of the most important things to ask of God?

IT'S WONDERFUL HOW THE LOVE OF CHRIST CAN BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER...



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WWJD

I WISH THE LOVE OF CHRIST WERE BRINGING ME TOGETHER WITH THE JUDGE INSTEAD OF THIS PARKING TICKET.



PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

Pentecost

First Reading: Acts 2.1-11

Pentecost was a Jewish feast that celebrated the beginning of the harvest. It took place 50 days after the feast of Passover. Jewish pilgrims came to Jerusalem from all over the ancient world for the celebration of the feast. Today we hear how Pentecost became a Christian feast.

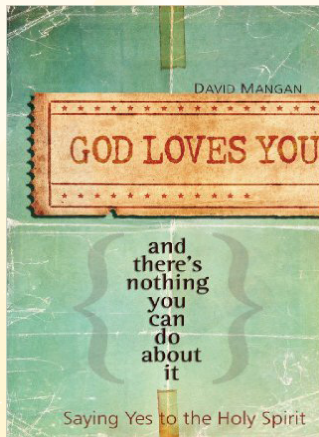
Second Reading: Romans 8.8-17

Today's passage comes from chapter eight of Paul's letter to the Romans, which stresses the importance of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians. Paul wants us to remember that the Spirit who will raise our bodies on the last day is the same Spirit who inspires us to holiness every day. Today Paul offers a sharp contrast between life in the flesh (meaning, life prone to sin) and life in the Spirit.

Parish on a Journey

Journey to the Past • Move to the Future

A Book for a Summer Journey



If you're wondering how to experience more of God through the action of the Holy Spirit, this book is for you. The power Jesus promised his followers when he ascended to the Father is yours for the asking. Blending lively anecdotes, personal testimony and humor, the author shows you how to turn to God in expectant faith and open yourself to the "dynamite" of the Holy Spirit. David Mangan's book is full of biblical wisdom and packed with practical guidance.

God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart

Readings for this Sunday

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24:46-53

(Readings for the Feast of the Ascension)

God Sits Upon The Heavenly Throne

Suggested Reflection Questions

- As Jesus is preparing to ascend to God 40 days after his Resurrection, the disciples still have questions for him. Jesus tells them that it is not for them to know God's plan. They are to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and the Holy Spirit will be sent to empower them. Can you imagine yourself at the scene of the Ascension standing among the disciples? What is it like to watch as Jesus disappears into the clouds?
- Joy overwhelms the psalmist as he imagines God being enthroned in heaven. Today we celebrate Jesus being enthroned at the right hand of God. What does God's throne symbolize?
- In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul describes Jesus as enthroned above every principality, authority, power, and dominion. The name of Jesus is above every name in every age. What does it mean that Jesus is enthroned above all earthly expressions of power?

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2016

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mother knows best

This year Mother's Day and World Communications Day both fall on today's date. The latter was established by the Second Vatican Council to focus on the evangelical potential of modern means of information exchange. Important to be sure, but our Mother Mary, like most mothers, communicates with her children in more personal (albeit, in her case, extraordinary) ways. And what does she say when she appears? Her messages can be summarized simply: Pray and be healed. Amid the information bombardment of today's digital age, stop and listen to Mary and heed her loving command.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 7:55-60; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; John 17:20-26 (61)*. "The world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me."



THE VIRGIN MARY IN PRAYER, ALBRECHT DÜRER (1518)

MONDAY, MAY 9 EASTER WEEKDAY

The pain of exile is all around us

The great Italian poet Dante Alighieri was born on this day in 1265. His *Divine Comedy* is considered one of the great works of world literature. Deeply involved in the political strife of medieval Florence, Dante was forced into exile and wrote of the bitterness of the experience, in lines that speak to anyone who has been forced to flee homeland and loved ones. Read them in solidarity with the millions who are living in exile in our war-torn times: "You shall leave everything you love most, this is the arrow that the bow of exile shoots first. You are to know the bitter taste of others' bread, how salty it is, and know how hard a path it is for one who goes ascending and descending others' stairs . . ."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33 (297)*. "In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world."

TUESDAY, MAY 10 FEAST OF DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, PRIEST

Be greater than your limitations

His brother Pamphile was the big shot: older, brilliant, slated for greatness in the mission fields. But when Pamphile fell ill at the time the Sacred Hearts were sending priests to the Hawaiian missions, the younger Damien volunteered to take his place. No one put much confidence in Damien, who had no brain for book-learning, questionable social skills, and no patience at all with authority. What Damien did among those afflicted with leprosy at Molokai far outweighed any of his limitations. Let your love be bigger than your limitations!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a (298)*. "Compelled by the Holy Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem. What will happen to me there I do not know."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 EASTER WEEKDAY

This thing could go either way

Saint Augustine wrote that we humans are "like a horse, with either God or the devil as rider." That's a rather colorful way to describe the struggle we all encounter as we try to do the right thing but slip up regularly and can take a hard fall if we are not alert in our spiritual life and self-control. We are pleasure-seeking,

pain-avoiding creatures, but it's easy to confuse cheap diversion for true wellness. Who's holding the reins in your own life? If you're being taken for a ride you'd rather not go on, now is the time to buck up!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19 (299)*. "I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction."

THURSDAY, MAY 12

FEAST OF NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS, MARTYRS

Study war no more

The carnage of war and the horrors of mass atrocities would not be possible if the foot soldiers of the world, *en masse*, refused to carry out orders. Easier said than done, as soldiers are constrained by powerful systems that force them to follow orders or face lethal consequences. Few of us would have the courage to resist in such a situation. Nereus and Achilles did. After participating in cruel persecutions of early Christians they threw down their weapons even though they knew

the fate that awaited them. Say a prayer of thanks for courageous acts of faith and be a "warrior for love."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26 (300)*. "I made known to them your name . . . that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them."

FRIDAY, MAY 13 FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Ask Mary

On May 13, 1917, in the midst of war-torn Europe, three local children reported that a beautiful lady appeared to them in their hometown of Fatima, Portugal. They reported that she asked the children to pray the rosary each day and to honor her Immaculate Heart. In time, the church agreed with the children that the Blessed Virgin Mary indeed had appeared. To this day, thousands journey to Fatima to seek Mary's counsel and help. In May 2010, Pope Benedict XVI prayed at the church of Our Lady of Fatima "as a homage of gratitude . . . for the marvels that the Almighty has worked through you in the hearts of so many who come as pilgrims to this your maternal home." Today is a day to say Mary's prayer, the rosary, to ask for God's peace.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19 (301)*. "When Jesus manifested himself to his disciples . . . he said, 'Feed my lambs.'"

SATURDAY, MAY 14 FEAST OF MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

Bake a "cake" for an apostle

Saint Matthias was the apostle chosen by lot to replace Judas Iscariot. An idea for his feast—especially with children—might be to read today's brief account in Acts and then bake some cookies! Find out Matthias' symbols—he is a patron saint of carpenters and tailors—or use symbols of his martyrdom such as a spear or sword. Using a basic gingerbread cookie recipe, allow the kids to shape the cookies into those symbols. He is also patron of those struggling with an addiction. For anyone in this category, instead of (or in addition to!) a cookie, extend a phone call, card, or word of support.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17 (564)*. "I have told you this so that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete."



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

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Day for Women, for Mothers

*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you made me welcome, Naked and you clothed me.
Sick and you visited me, In prison and you came to see me.*

These words fit all of us, at least in one period in our lives— at the time of our birth and infancy. We had a gigantic appetite and not the faintest idea of how to satisfy it. But we met a woman, a loving face in the enormous new world we stumbled into. She warmed us and calmed us in the circle of her arms, fed us and clothed us and welcomed us. We met a marvelously caring person called a mother. Some mothers are adoptive, some biological but all have one thing in common; they are delightful embodiments of the “works of mercy” that Jesus described. No wonder Jesus tells them: “Take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” After all, He was once a baby too. To all mothers, to all who serve and act as loving mothers,

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

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 church or on our website. Hopefully we can set up an appointment to meet one another. Contact us at 973-267-5330 or info@stmnj.org.

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

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

Sunday Collection: \$ 6,223

One In Christ

Almighty and ever-living God, through the Death and Resurrection of your Son, you called us to be witnesses to your glory.

Open our eyes so that we might relish in your presence and be stirred from our contentment.

Help us to be one with Christ as you and he are one.

By enduring death, Stephen, your chosen servant, united his heart to Christ and declared your mighty deeds.

Grant us steadfast faith when confronted with ridicule and disbelief.

May the Holy Spirit draw us deeper into the heart of Christ, filling us with the profound love of Jesus, so that we might share it with every living creature.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH

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(4 Convent Rd. Morristown)

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www.stmnj.org

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 Bill McGuire, parish mgr, wmcguire@stmnj.org, ext. 104
 Pat Schell, secretary, secretary@stmnj.org, ext. 103
 Fr. Das Choondassery (in residence), ext. 108

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