

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



JUNE 18, 2017

FEAST OF THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

**WHOEVER EATS
MY FLESH AND
DRINKS MY
BLOOD HAS
ETERNAL LIFE
AND I WILL
RAISE HIM
UP ON THE
LAST DAY**



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See us on Facebook

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

Follow us on Twitter@StThomMore

What's Happening This Week?

Today

No Rel. Ed.
Seminarian Collection

Wednesday

Thom's Supper Club, 5 pm

Next Sunday

Latin & South Am. Collection

Every Sunday

Pound A Week



Stewardship of Treasure

Last week's Collection: \$ 5650

Monthly Collection: \$2174

Sign up for electronic giving at

stthommore.weshareonline.org



Rest in Peace

We were told that Pat Faust died last month and that her funeral was at Assumption Church. May she rest in peace.

Thom's Supper Club

Join Thom's Supper Club on Wed. 5pm at Charlie Brown's. (Separate Checks available.) Call Joan Cummings at 973-377-6708 to let her know. Thom's Supper Club is a time for single and re-singled adults to eat together. All welcome.

Weekday Parking

Parishioners are allowed and welcome to park in our first parking lot during the week if they ride the train. Please pick up a window hanger if you don't have one. *A reminder that you can park in the second lot on weekends when coming to church.*

This Week's Question

For Adults:

What does it mean for you right now to be bread for others as Jesus was?

For Children:

What does it mean for you right now to be bread for others as Jesus was?

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.

Today's Readings

Deut 8:2-16; 1 Cor 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

"I am the Living Bread"

- The events in today's reading take place as the Israelites are camped on the shore of the Jordan River ready to enter the Promised Land. In his farewell speech, Moses makes it clear that when they settle in their new land they must never forget all the wonderful things God did for them during their 40 years in the desert
- The Jewish people believed that when they sacrificed an animal to God and then ate a portion of the sacrifice themselves, they were in communion with God to whom they had given the other portion. Applying this to the Eucharist, Paul reminds us that when we receive Holy Communion, we become one with the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

Dept. of Persons with Disabilities

Support this Department and honor Msgr. John Hart. DPD's 43rd Annual Golf Classic. Mon, June 26. Msgr. Hart will be honored as DPD's Humanitarian of the Year! Info: www.dpd.org/wiegand.

Did you know . . .

Recycling a six-pack of aluminum cans every week saves enough energy to power a TV for 936 hours? The recycling process uses about 75% less energy than using materials for the first time. Recycled aluminum is used in new cars, bikes, appliances and cookware.

Parish on a Journey

Parish Centered in Eucharist

In Pope John Paul's Encyclical on the Eucharist, he offered his personal imprint as a poet-pope to the Church.

"I have been able to celebrate holy Mass in chapels along mountain passes, on lakeshores and seacoasts. I have celebrated it on altars built in stadiums and in city squares. This varied scenario of celebrations has given me a powerful experience of its universal and so to speak cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and Earth. It embraces and permeates all creation. In the Eucharist the whole of the creation that came forth from God now returns to the Father, redeemed by Christ."

The pope restated the ancient Christian faith in the Eucharist as the real presence and the sacrifice of Christ. He stressed that it is the Risen Christ, whom we come to know through his real presence in the Eucharist.

In the Eucharist, wrote John Paul, Jesus brings about a "mysterious oneness in time" between ourselves and the events of his passion, death and resurrection. The Eucharist is "the sacramental re-presentation of these events." It makes "Christ's one definitive, redemptive sacrifice always present in time." In the Eucharist the risen Christ makes a gift to his father of himself and of the world he has redeemed. He calls upon us to join him and to offer ourselves and our world to the Father.

As we eat his flesh and, drink his blood, says the pope, the Risen Christ offers himself in friendship to us and we to him. He also makes us a pledge that we shall rise as he did at the end of the world—"truly a glimpse of heaven on earth."

The pope insisted that this glimpse of heaven must increase rather than lessen our sense of responsibility for the world. In our globalized society the weak, the powerless and the poorest have so little hope. The Eucharist allows us as a parish to journey with the Risen Christ toward history's culmination. As we move along with him, we will bring to the poor the hope and the joy of the risen Christ.



Daily scripture reflections are on our website under "Faith Formation" and in the vestibule.

Collection for Mission Next Weekend

A special combined collection will be taken upn next weekend.

Bishop Serratelli asks us to consider the important work being done by the Church throughout the world and respond with a generous heart.

The Church in Latin America struggles to meet the needs of their large and active Catholic population. Your support of the Collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation and other programs to build the faith of those who long to grow in their knowledge and love of Christ Jesus.

Catholic Relief Services supports people in some of the most marginalized communities in the world. The collection will assist in providing aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters and advocates for the people who are all too often discarded by society. Your help is their hope.



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Fr. Das Choondassery (in residence), ext. 108

Body and Blood of Christ

Every Sunday for over two millennia, the Spirit gathers the People of God to assemble around their Risen Lord. There, he leads them into the presence of the Father. Together they enter a dialogue with God which continues through the entire liturgy.

God speaks to the assembly through Scripture. Vatican II said it best: "in the sacred books the Father who is in heaven comes to meet his children and speaks lovingly to them."

Words, as vessels of memory, our own and those of God join together in us. God's Word heals out words and memories, brings them alive, energizes them with the power of Christ. God gathers us to tell us the Good News that Christ has triumphed over evil, sin and death. The ancient enemies of our race no longer have the final word in our lives.

After we announce our faith and petitions offered for the world, we begin the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The priest calls upon God's Spirit to transform our gifts of bread and wine, symbols of our lives and work, into the body and blood of Christ. Likewise the priest calls on that same Spirit to come upon us that we may be transformed in holiness as the Body of Christ.

Vatican II taught us that the people offer and celebrate together with the priest, an expression of the common priesthood of all believers. Even as an act of the church, it is Christ the high priest who acts in this sacrifice and sacrament.

As we are beckoned to the Lord's table, we are called to remember the compassion and pardon that marked the table fellowship Jesus practiced during his ministry. He broke bread with "sinners," the outcasts, the marginalized of his society. Theologians believe this action of Christ, more than any other, sent him to his death. He directly challenged the leaders of his people, the priests, scribes and pharisees who pushed these "sinners" to the margins of their community.

In the act of sharing bread and wine, Jesus calls us to move out of the valley of our own egos into the world of our brothers and sisters, particularly the poorest, the neediest, the most abandoned of them. We might easily think that our reception of the eucharist in communion is simply a personal, treasured visit with our Lord. It is more than this. It is the way Jesus draws us more completely into the sacrifice of him the Head and all his members.

