Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction. -2 Cor 1:3-4b, ESV

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE TRAGEDY IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA JUNE 12, 2016

The Day of Resurrection

June 19, 2016

What's Happening? Sunday Pound A Week

Seminarian Collection

Next Sunday Pound A Week

Every Sunday Pound A Week



Are you a regular parishioner of STM Parish?

UΝ

Are you registered. This will greatly help us to know our parishioners and assist our pastoral planning. Besides' we'd love to know your name. Registration forms are on the website or in the vestibule. If you're not sure, why not give the office a call or email us at info@stmnj. org. Thanks so much.

Soon you will have the opportunity to check out your own membership information online. We are working on this right now. We don't have an accurate account of our membership. Some marked 'innactive' are here every week. Others marked 'active' have never been seen by Fr. Joe in the last seven years. We are especially hoping to update emails on our membership lists and looking into other avenues of communication other than printed copy. All part of getting ready for our 50th!

MC Right To Life Event July 2.

Morris Country Right to Life will march in the Randolph Freedom Parade on July 2, noon-2pm Saturday at County College of Morris. Arrive by 11 am and take shuttle bus to lineup. Wear their T-shirt or patriotic colors. Info 973-933-2800, info@morriscountyrighttolife.org.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

Which crosses in your life do you find especially heavy? What or who helps you bear them?

For Children:

When you have something hard to do, what or who helps you get through it?



E

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 will be available from now on as four page brochures on the desk in the vestibule there is a regular KIDS version and a LittleKIDS version.

Don't look for me next month

I won't be around for most of July. Other than a day off once in awhile, most of any time away over the last seven years has been connected with other duties. It's time I get away for your sake and mine. So plan schedules accordingly. Frs. Joe Davis, Das and others will be around for liturgy and when necessary. All emergencies will get proper attention. Any extended office hours will be discussed. [To remind everyone, the bulletin usually says the office is open 9:30 to 2 pm, Monday through Wed. and by appointment.]

There will be no bulletins printed during July, mainly because I am the writer, editor (including typos) and printer of the bulletin. Our advertizer contracts expire in August, so we will extend their ads until September. We may publish important notices on our website at stmnj.org.

Why am I taking the time off? First, it's part of my contract, and believe it or not, it's church law! Second, I'm worn out. When I first came, looking at the age of many parishioners, trying to save money and not wanting to burden the few members who were already overtaxed, I took on a lot. I was already used to working seven days but college life had built in breaks that balanced the work. Parish life continues from season to season. I thought the workload would lessen when younger people joined the parish. Some new members jumped in and helped but not enough did. I'm not saying it's their fault. Maybe they never felt invited or were never asked. Hopefully we can fix that in the near future. Additionally, we are living with a skeleton staff, which affects everyone but can't afford more than we have.

Lastly, traditional rectory living is not always healthy. You live where you work and some people still think a priest should be available 24/7. This was true when rectories had 4 to 5 priests. Then, each priest was on duty one or two days a week, like other service or medical staffs. That's no longer so, but the mentality prevails. Our rectory was built on one floor, with plans for a parish center and offices. Without the center, the rectory can become a public accessible place at times. Plans to cook a real meal can be easily thwarted if some people decide to come and use the living room for a meeting. Meals can become burnt if people see your car when getting off the train, and decide to do some office business then. So, I need a vacation.

So, what will I be doing? Visiting Europe, Africa? Sleeping! Look up some old friends and writing a long neglected thesis, which, believe it not, excites me. See you in August. **JGF**



Parish on a Journey

Journey to the Past • Move to the Future

The Spirit of Charity Gala

Our parish is sponsoring a gala to begin the celebration of 50 years as a parish. Since 1966, we have been fulfilling our mission by faithfully preaching the good news of the gospel and serving its' parishioners and Morris County community. With parish life rapidly expanding to meet the needs of the community, additional funding is necessary to increase our programs to better serve the parishioners and the community.

On October 29, 2016 our parish will sponsor The Spirit of Charity Gala, THE GREAT GATSBY to be held at The Villa at Mountain Lakes, Mountain Lakes, NJ. It promises to be an extraordinary event with all proceeds benefiting Saint Thomas More Parish. The Great Gatsby Gala will provide the added financial support needed to continue the mission of serving God's people.

Parishioners will receive a 'Reserve the Date" and Gala invitation in the near future. For additional information or to purchase table reservations please contact the following members of the Gala Committee: Sharon O'Neil - 973-889-1343 Julie Romano - 201-454-0161 Anne Kostyak - 973.714.3463.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: 1 Kings 19.16-21

Elijah lived about 800 years before Jesus, and was revered as the greatest prophet in Jewish history, even though he left no written records. In today's passage, he is nearing the end of his life, and God instructs him to anoint a successor.

Second Reading: Galatians 5.1-18

Some time after Paul had preached the Gospel in Galatia, other Christians came who insisted that to be a good Christian one also had to follow the Jewish law and be ritually circumcised. This caused great dissension in the Church there. In today's passage, Paul reaffirms their freedom from the law, and pleads for greater harmony.

God's Grace is Young Enough For the Young and Young At Heart

Readings for this Sunday Zechariah 12: 10-13:1; Galatians 3:26-29; Luke 9:18-24

> You Belong to Christ Suggested Reflection Questions

- This passage from Zechariah, in a Christian context, is often interpreted as referring to Jesus, the descendant of David who is pierced through for our sins. What, in the sacramental life of the Church, is the fountain of purity to which this text refers?
- Paul assures the Galatians that every ethnic, racial, cultural, and hierarchical distinction that the world puts upon us is made null and void by our unity in Christ Jesus. We are made one in our baptism. When Christ claims us in baptism, we are given freedom from the claims of the world. How do we see this being lived out in the Church today?
- Jesus tells his disciples that anyone who wishes to follow him must take up his or her cross daily. What does it mean to take up our cross every day and follow Jesus?



SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2016 TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Happy Abba day!

In modern-day Hebrew, the word *Abba* translates to mean "Daddy." It is a term filled with love and trust. Abba is the one who holds you close, who loves you dearly, and who takes pride in the person you are. Jesus, in Aramaic, used the word Abba to speak to God. Jesus reminds us that it is this Father's love that has created us and calls us to life. This God has chosen us and gives us his only son, so that we might truly know that we are, always and forever, Abba's children.

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 12:10-11; 13:1; Galatians 3:26-29; Luke 9:18-24 (96). "Through faith you are all children of God."

MONDAY, JUNE 20 Judgment is the Lord's

Judging others—even if criticism is justified—is a bad habit to get into. Jesus often called those who judged others (rather than themselves) hypocrites, a word that in Greek meant actors or pretenders. Pope Francis says, "I think we too are the people who, on the one hand, want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, at times, like to find a stick to beat others with, to condemn others. [But] the Lord's most powerful message is mercy." You've been misjudged. You know how it hurts. So why cause others pain?

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Matthew 7:1-5 (371). "As you judge, so will you be judged."

TUESDAY, JUNE 21 FEAST OF ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, RELIGIOUS Choose harmony

Saint Aloysius Gonzaga lived through violent times in Renaissance Italy. Wars were frequent, and he witnessed the murders of two of his brothers. It was assumed he would become a soldier and later a marquis like his father. But Aloysius chose to heal instead of maim, renounced his sizable inheritance, and became a Jesuit priest. In poor health himself, he administered to the sick until illness claimed him, too. In today's troubled times, you are faced with the same choice as Aloysius—are you contributing to harmony or discord?

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Matthew 7:6, 12-14 (<u>372</u>). "How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few."

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

FEAST OF JOHN FISHER, BISHOP, AND THOMAS MORE, MARTYRS Standing together for religious freedom

Today we celebrate the feasts of two great saints and martyrs: Saint Thomas More, chancellor of England, and Saint John Fisher, bishop of Rochester. They were martyred within two weeks of each other by King Henry VIII (who had been a good friend to both) for defending the sanctity of marriage and papal authority. They were beatified together by Pope Leo XIII in 1886 and canonized together by Pius XI in 1935. It is very hard to uphold and defend our moral values. May these two saints be our models and heroes when our integrity is threatened.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Matthew 7:15-20 (373). "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit."

THURSDAY, JUNE 23 Old Testament, in short

God makes the world good. People prefer their own way. Sin and pain enter the story. Brother kills brother. Rains fall, waters rise. We start again. Nations scatter and fortify. God befriends Abraham. Abraham's kin move to Egypt and are enslaved. Rescued by Moses, Israelites receive God's laws and enter Canaan. We start again. Judges rule. Kings take the throne. Jerusalem becomes God's city. A temple to God is built there. Babylon destroys Jerusalem, the temple, and the kingship. Israel is exiled to Babylon, then released. We start again. Always, always, God's people must start again.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 24:8-17; Matthew 7:21-29 (<u>374</u>). "[Nebuchadnezzar] carried off all the treasures of the temple . . . and deported all Jerusalem."

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST Who is your saint?

Unlike many images of Jesus and the saints, John the Baptist is not portrayed in pastels, gazing heavenward. He is the wild man, driven to announce the coming Kingdom. Many scholars believe that Jesus may have been a disciple of John, and when John was martyred, Jesus himself took up the message—an intense mission, but not a joyless one. One film shows John with Jesus after his Baptism, standing in the Jordan, dripping and embracing, almost giddy at what God was doing with them. Do you have a saint to whom you can draw close, to help you laugh at yourself, someone you can learn from?

TODAY'S READINGS: Day: Isaiah 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Luke 1:57-66, 80 (587). "It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant . . . I will make you a light to the nations."

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 Only say the word

In 2011, the revised <u>Roman Missal</u> (the U.S. translation of the Mass) underwent a number of changes. One of the more noticeable changes was in the Eucharistic Prayer: "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you . . ." became "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof . . ." The new wording echoes the gospel story of Jesus healing the centurion's servant from a distance. It was Christ's word and the centurion's faith that healed. Perhaps as we participate in the Mass these words are a good reminder that the words we use are powerful—filled with faith and capable of miracles.

TODAY'S READINGS: Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Matthew 8:5-17 (376). "Jesus said to the centurion, 'You may go; as you have believed, let it be done for you.' "



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

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A Meditation on the Orlando Shooting



by Mark Galli/ Christianity Today / June 12, 2016

We are deeply grieved by the shooting in Orlando that killed 49 people. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to friends and family of the victims. In this case, the attack was targeted at one group, and so our prayers go up for gays, lesbians, and other sexual minorities who now live with a heightened sense of fear. We are glad to hear of so many Christians, from many theological persuasions, reaching out to comfort them in their grief.

This weekend's murders unfortunately remind us of the LGBT community's place among the many groups who have been singled out for mass killing by hateful people. Just five examples since 2000:

African Americans: The most recent attack we are remembering just this week: On JunWe e 17, 2015, nine people were murdered at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Sikhs: On August, 5, 2012, six people were killed and three injured at a Wisconsin Sikh temple.

Christians: On December 9, 2007, two people were killed at a Youth With A Mission training center in Arvada, Colorado, and another two at New Life Church in Colorado Springs.

Jews: Surprisingly, Jews have been regularly subject to a number of murderous rampages since 2000, with fire bombings at synagogues in the Bronx and Syracuse New York in October 2000, the LAX shooting at the El Al ticket counter on July 4, 2002, the Seattle Federation shooting on July 28, 2006, and the Overland Park, Kansas, attack on April 13, 2014.

Mexican Americans: No, they have not been murderously attacked—but there was a serious plan afoot. On May 1, 2007, five members of an antiimmigration militia in Birmingham, Alabama, were arrested for planning to mow down "Mexicans" with machine guns.

And we're only talking about what's happening in the United States. International attacks on specific groups are even more horrific.

What are we to make of this hateful targeting? To be sure, there is a matrix of political, social, and psy-

chological issues that must be addressed with vigilance. But while we attend to these matters, we Christians also recognize that this is at heart a spiritual battle with what the apostle Paul calls the "principalities and powers." And that gives us a clue as to what, in addition to our social service as citizens, our unique contribution can be at times like this: prayer.

We share this with other religionists, of course, but we practice it in our own way. We don't often see its effect, but Jesus has promised that prayer in his name makes a difference. It's times like these that it can be hard to pray, but it's vital we take Jesus at his word on this matter.

But there is one particular prayer that Jesus teaches and models. I'm not enough of a world religion scholar to know if it is unique to Christianity, but it is remarkable part of Christian faith and life. It's the prayer of Stephen as he was stoned and of Jesus on the Cross: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

It is one way we obey Jesus' command to love enemies, even murderous ones—whether they target us or those with whom we sympathize.

This struck me afresh recently as I recited an Eastern Orthodox prayer of intercession. In the litany of petitions, this one jumped out at me: "Lord, we pray... for those who hate us and those who love us."

In the Orthodox tradition, this prayer is to be said every evening. The Orthodox know something about enemies, having lived under repressive Muslim and Communist regimes for centuries. So they know why this petition must become habitual for people of faith.

I believe if this were a daily prayer for American Christians, it would help us to do that which does not come naturally to us: loving our enemies—and the enemies of all those we love. And it would shape us as a people to be Christ's presence in a hateful and divided world—a world that needs to know of his presence more than ever.

Mark Galli is editor of Christianity Today

"This phenomenon of near constant mass shootings happens only in America—nowhere else." *Chris Murphy, US Senator, CT*



A LOOK AT FINANCES FOR 2015-2016

-			
	Offertory Collections	388,663.34	
	Building Fund Collection	5,204.00	
	Parking Lot Income	13,580.00	
	Investment Income	4043.79	
	Mass Stipends	11,853.10	
	Other Income	27,858.36	
	Includes \$17,000 Partners in Faith subsidy		
_			

Total Income 451,202.59

Expenses

Salaries & Contractor Expenses	123,266.36
Pension, Benefits, Payroll Taxes,e	etc.42,487.75
Rectory Expenses/Provisions	20,796.19
Repairs & Maintenance	38,541.61
Utilities	35,145.84
Telephone Service	11,175.73
Grounds Upkeep	19,569.31
Property Insurance	10,653.41
Physical Plant Expenses	12,556.71
Misc. Facility Expenses	4,560.88
Education/ Evangelization	5,357.92
General Pastoral Expenses	1,157.35
Social	3,032.88
Music & Liturgical Expenses	31,162.97
(Includes \$16,000 for Reconciliation	n Room)
Charity	7,629.40
Misc. Ministry Exp.	3,308.29
Diocesan Assessment	57,923.11
Office Expenses	11,980.97
Prof. & Contract. Services	981.85
Marketing	78.00
Miscellaneous-Gen. & Admin	3,109.82
Banking Fees	1,698.02
Total Expense	449,076.15

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Many people have remarked that the grounds look awesome. It is so true, but it doesn't come without cost. Anne Kostyak, Cecelia Jojolian, Tony Ciavatta, Mike Murray and others literally get their hands dirty to make our campus so inviting.

Our worship is the life of any parish. Liturgies never happen in a vacuum. Preparation is ongoing and includes space upkeep, homily development, scripture preparation and music planning. We are pleased to have such a talented person as Mark Davis join us along with our cantors, readers, eucharistic ministers and ushers. Many of them work extra hard to make up for low numbers. But there are many others behind the scene as well. Those who prepare the linens, vacuum the carpet, water the plants are indispensable. For instance, Theresa Gallagher has overseen the preparation of daily mass for years.

Planning is critical for future parish life. The newly formed Pastoral Council has been working and discussion issues that will strengthen our parish. The Finance Council has already done a great job negotiating a better parking lot lease contract with the Township which enabled us to seal the first parking lot. The dream of the Gala committee is to build financial stability for our future. All have worked tremendous hours toward their goals.

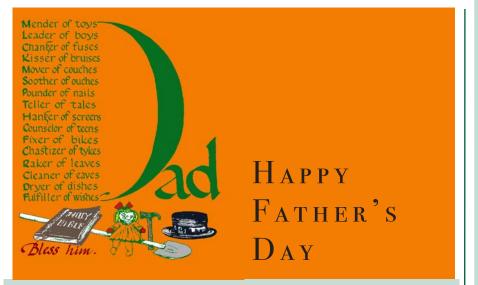
Religious education, like Yoda, may be small but is powerful. The program is run mainly by parents and the kids love the program. What more can we want? Learn, they do.

There are many more achievements. Some are physical such as the new healing chapel, the website and telephone system, the new security measures, the brand new Welcoming Jesus at our entrance. We are also making plans for a way to welcome new parishioners; we are working on a volunteer program; a few parishioners have been investigating how we can better use technology both for better communications and for marketing; soon we will add a Liturgy Committee to the others. But none of this comes without a cost. A cost of time, of talent and of treasure of parishioners.

And so we have needs and the main need is you. Yes, we need you: to recognize need and to jump in to make them happen. We need you to share your talent with the parish, no matter what it is. We need you to help us become financially stable. This fiscal report seems positive. However, we used the Partners in Faith subsidy to pay bills (since it's a set aside amount, we set it aside this year). Generous parishioners also made sizeable contributions toward our parking lot, confessional and other repairs. We only have two part time staff members. Our utilities and landscape bills alone amount to almost \$1000 a week; diocesan assessments and fees amount to about \$1500 a week. With a weekly average of about \$5000 a week collection, we run the parish on two weeks collection a month plus other extra collections. Our Sunday collections from envelopes, loose checks and electronic offerings for this fiscal year amounted to \$344,094 from 309 donors. \$134,683 or 40% of this amount was given by 20 donors. 50% of this amount was given by 30 donors, 10% of our registered contributors. We are indebted to them, but we need participation of all. We need to raise our income. I am appealing to parishioners to examine their commitment to the parish to see if it is a responsible commitment. I don't often talk about money but I need to, now. I need you. JGF

Convent Station, New Jersey

Saint Thomas More



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
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. If 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.

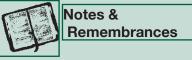
Moving In or Out? If you are relocating either in or out of the parish area please takes a moment to help keep our records current. Contact the parish office or drop a note into the collection basket.

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:



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: \$7,770

Saturday Morning Mass

There will be no Saturday morning mass during the months of July and August.

May They Rest in Peace

Julie Ann Clinton, sister of Pat Wickens entered eternal life. We extend our sympathy to Pat at this time.

Irene Lawlor died last week after a valiant personal medical struggle along with the prayers of so many parishioeners. We continue our prayers and offer our sympathy and support to Pat and his family.

Hospital Ministers

The Chaplain's office at Morristown Hospital is in need of Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Pastoral visitors to assist in their ministry to the sick at Morristown Medical Center.

Those who are interested, please contact Sr. Jo Mascera, S.S.C. at 973-971-5913 for more information.

Position Available

Assumption College for Sisters, Denville: Instructor for World Civilization I course. Ancient civilization to 14th/15th centuries. Masters degree. Resume to Sr. Joseph Spring, SCC, president@acs350.org by 7/1.

A Prayer for Generosity

LORD, teach me to be generous, / teach me to serve you as you deserve, / to give and not to count the cost, / to fight and not to heed the world, / to toil and not to seek for rest. / to labor and not to seek reward, / save that of knowing that I do your will.

Please sign up for electronic giving. stthommore.weshareonline.org

See us on Facebook Follow us on Twitter@StThomMore

