

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH



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

JUNE 26, 2016

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please
Read Me!



*Serve one another
through love
for the whole law is fulfilled
in one statement*

*You shall love
your neighbor
as yourself*

St. Paul to the Galatians

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Mail: P.O. Box 286

Convent Station, NJ 07961

GPS: 4 Convent Rd.

Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

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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
Pound A Week

Next Sunday
Pound A Week

Every Sunday
Pound A Week



Are you a regular parishioner of STM Parish?

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 'inactive' 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!

Bishop Serratelli Visit

Bishop Serratelli will visit our parish at preside at eucharist next Saturday, July 2. We welcome him once again on this holiday weekend.

MC Right To Life Event July 2.

Morris County Right to Life will march in the Randolph Freedom Parade on July 2, noon-2pm Saturday at County College of Morris. Info 973-933-2800, info@morriscountyrighttolife.org.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

When have you faltered or looked back during your journey of faith?

For Children:

What can you do to be a stronger follower of Jesus this week?



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.

Throwback Time



Bishop Casey and Fr. Feenan are discussing the future of the newly formed St. Thomas More Parish in the Convent Station section of Morris Township.

Construction changes and new homes in Convent Station led Bishop Navagh to believe the area would be filled with Catholics. He died before he was able to develop his plan. Soon after

Bishop Casey was appointed bishop, he named Fr. Feenan as the founding pastor of this new parish on the Feast of the Holy Cross, Sept. 14, 1966. This was eight months before the formal promulgation of the parish in May 1967.

Time to begin our celebrations. And so we mark our very beginning with a parish picnic and anniversary mass on Sunday, September 11, on the grounds that came to be called "home" for us. We cannot ignore that this date also has somber connotations, marking the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. On this day, we will not only remember our past but also remember those who lost their lives on that day or because of that day as well as their families and survivors. As we commit ourselves to the future, we will also pledge our life as a parish toward peace in our families, our church and our world. Rain date will be September 18.

BUT we need help, WE WANT YOUR HELP and ideas. Please contact Pat Briscoe or call, email or text the parish

FATHER, I'M
GOING TO
START
COMING
BACK TO
CHURCH!



GREAT!
see
YOU
SUN-
DAY?

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AMDG

LK 9:51-62

ACTUALLY, THIS
SUNDAY IS THE
COMPANY PICNIC,
THEN NEXT
WEEKEND I'M
BOOKED TO GO
FISHING WITH
THE GUYS, THEN...



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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 66.10-14

The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon. In today's reading (which is a poem), the prophet sees a bright future for Jerusalem, and uses the image of God as a mother.

Second Reading: Galatians 6.14-18

In Galatia, a group of Christians attacked Paul's credentials as an apostle and accused him of false teaching because he said people can be saved without abiding by the Jewish law. In this passage from the end of his letter to the Galatians, Paul defends his right to teach, and stresses that faith in the law has been replaced by faith in Jesus.

God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart

Readings for this Sunday

1 Kings 19:16-21; Galatians 5:1-18; Luke 9:51-62

You Are My Inheritance

Suggested Reflection Questions

- In the psalms we are reminded God our "inheritance" and our "portion." God is all we need. What stumbling blocks keep us from understanding our total reliance on God? Why is it hard to trust?
- To the Galatian church, Paul writes that we are to use the freedom we have in Christ to serve one another with love. He explains that the whole of the law can be summed up in the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself. Why is this commandment the summation of the law? Why do we need to be free in order to follow it fully?
- In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells those who wish to follow him that "no one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." This teaching seems harsh ... especially considering that the requests Jesus is confronted with include burying a close relative and saying goodbye to one's family. Why does Jesus make this demand on those who wish to follow him? What is he asking them to do?



SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Christmas is official!

It wasn't until 1870 that Christmas was officially declared a federal holiday in the United States. Before that, some condemned the celebration of Christmas as an invention of the Catholic Church. In fact in 1647, England's Puritan rulers banned Christmas! The Puritan influence was brought to the Americas and a ban was in place in the Boston area until 1681. Nowadays Christmas Day is a public holiday in the U.S. and many countries around the world. Even though Christmas is six months away, take some time today to give thanks for the gift of Christmas and the gift of religious freedom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21; Galatians 5:1, 13-18; Luke 9:51-62 (99)*. "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

MONDAY, JUNE 27 Celebrate hard work and achievement

Today we unofficially celebrate the life and achievements of Helen Keller, who, even though deaf and blind, grew to be a renowned activist and author. We are reminded that people can overcome challenges and achieve anything they put their hearts into. Despite her challenges, Keller became the first deaf and blind person to earn a college degree *cum laude* in the U.S. In 1980, during Keller's birth centennial, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed today—her birthday—as Helen Keller Day. This is also a good time to celebrate the patience and resilience of Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan. Today, encourage those in challenging conditions and celebrate the achievements of the most vulnerable among us.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Amos 2:6-10, 13-16; Matthew 8:18-22 (377)*. "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

TUESDAY, JUNE 28 FEAST OF IRENAEUS, BISHOP, MARTYR Befriend the outsider

In the late second century, groups of Christians called Gnostics claimed to have "secret knowledge" directly from Jesus. Saint Irenaeus rejected their divisiveness: Authentic teachers lead the *whole* church, not a closed or secret society. Still, religious division and mistrust are with us today, for example between many Christians and Muslims. Pope Francis says, "Christians, Muslims . . . ought to remain united in working to defeat what disfigures the Face of God by seeking only their own interests." Whom do you consider outsiders? Do you really know much about them? Take time to learn

rather than reject, to share rather than practice secrecy or division.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Matthew 8:23-27 (378)*.

"If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love."

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 SOLEMNITY OF PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES Hail to the chiefs!

Peter and Paul are often called the "chief apostles" because of the way their witness helped spread the gospel far and wide in the early Christian community. Each is an example of what faith can look like. For Peter, it meant spreading his experience of Jesus to everyone he met, to be the "rock" on which the church was built. For Paul, it meant building relationships and speaking to the power of the word to transform lives. Each was a giant in his own right, but together, on this feast, they remind us that disciples never go it alone.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19 (591)*. "Put on your cloak and follow me."

THURSDAY, JUNE 30 FEAST OF THE FIRST MARTYRS OF THE CHURCH IN ROME Love and courage

In the year 64 a fire broke out in Rome and raged for seven days, destroying more than half of the city. Historians suggest that the emperor Nero actually set the fire in order to blame it on the Christians, whom he persecuted throughout his 14-year reign. And blame them he did. But this time, Nero's methods of torture were so horrific that the public turned against him. He took his own life in 68, but not before he had made martyrs of many early Christians. People still face unjust persecution in parts of our world. But most of us forget the price the early Christians paid. When we remember them today we ask for the grace to imitate their faith in God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Amos 7:10-17; Matthew 9:1-8 (380)*. "Such things are bound to happen, but that is not yet the end."

FRIDAY, JULY 1 FEAST OF JUNÍPERO SERRA, PRIEST It starts in the eyes

Conquest begins in the eyes. We see, we want, and we plot to take. Spanish explorers saw the New World as a land worth possessing to the fullest. That it was inhabited seemed no obstacle. Native peoples—awed, overpowered, or enslaved—made conquest all the richer. Missionaries like Franciscan Junípero Serra, founding father of California, offered "salvation and civilization" ahead of the conquistadors, but also the mantle of church protection. We view all these historical actors more critically now. How can we make up for the injustices of history today?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Amos 8:4-6, 9-12; Matthew 9:9-13 (381)*. "We will buy the lowly man for silver, and the poor man for a pair of sandals."

SATURDAY, JULY 2 MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY "These scars say I am alive"

One of Mary's titles is Mother of Sorrows, but her sorrow can seem remote. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a group of eight British women posed for a photograph. Topless. The shock makes you want to look away, but you cannot, and they don't want you to. They are scarred but strong and smiling, as if to say, "We're survivors. Don't feel sorry for us. Help others caught in sorrow." Mary doesn't need us to weep for her pain, but is there a woman you know who needs your support? You may not be able to remove her sorrows, but at least don't turn away. You can let her know she is loved.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Amos 9:11-15; Matthew 9:14-17 (382)*. "Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss."



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

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Who, Where Why, How ...

How is music chosen for liturgies?

Three "judgements" are supposed to be made about music intended for worship: theological, musical and pastoral, outlined by the Bishops' Committee on Liturgy:

Theological Decision: does this hymn express our faith in a healthy way, in tune with how the church understands its mission in the world? Is there good theology in the text? Does it speak of God or our relationship with God as Church?

Musical Decision: no matter what the style, does this music meet basic standards for being GOOD music? Obviously, a level of musical competence is needed for making this judgement.

Pastoral Decision: is this song or hymn really suited for **this** community of people, at this time in the year, for this particular celebration? Is it singable?

Pastoral judgement requires honest intuition for what is best in the situation. Music can be varied to match the diversity of the people. The assembly should be open enough to include music with which a minority segment is comfortable. It is obvious that personal taste can easily creep into the exercising of pastoral judgement, but christian love, joy and praise should all be part of the final judgement.

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. 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: _____



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: \$5,570

Saturday Morning Mass

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

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.

Prayer of St. Thomas More

**O Lord,
give us a mind
that is humble, quiet,
peaceable,
patient, and charitable,
and a taste of your Holy Spirit
in all our thoughts, words, and
deeds.**

**O Lord,
give us a lively faith, a firm
hope,
a fervent charity, a love of
you.**

**Take from us all lukewarmness
in meditation
and all dullness in prayer.**

**Give us fervor and delight in
thinking of you,
your grace, and your tender
compassion toward us.**

**Give us, good Lord,
the grace to work for
the things we pray for.**

—St. Thomas More

died July 6, 1421

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH

PO Box 286, Convent Station, NJ 07961

(4 Convent Rd. Morristown)

973-267-5330 email: info@stmnj.org

www.stmnj.org

Fr. Joe Farias, jfarias@stmnj.org, ext. 102
 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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