

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH
CONVENT STATION, NEW JERSEY
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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 5, 2015

What's Happening?

Today
Pound A Week
Next Sunday
Clothing Collection

Every Sunday
Pound A Week



Interested?

Interested in making a couple of bucks and helping the parish at the same time? We are looking at a new communications venture to be funded with advertising. We need one or two sales minded people to seek ads from local advertisers. Compensation by commission based stipend. It will not take much time at all. Contact the parish office.

Sew Sewers

Calling all sewers to make dresses for disadvantaged children. Even if you cannot sew, we have a job for you. Call Arlene at 732-503-3851.

Pope Francis Fan of Ooberfuse

The British pop-electronica band Ooberfuse teamed up with the Archbishop of Erbil to release a video for its new song, "We Are One." It was written to let thousands of refugees displaced by the Islamic State know they are not alone in their suffering.

"We Are One" reiterates the fact that although many lost their homes and lives they once knew in Iraq, they will never be without the love and hope of God.

"In our home, in our faith, in our love, we are one," Cherrie Anderson sings. "You aren't alone in this dream. We are one."

The video was filmed during the band's visit to refugee camps in Erbil, and features many of the refugees at the camps.

The video starts off by explaining the crisis that refugees are in following the Islamic State's takeover of Northern Iraq, which has caused the majority of the Christian population to flee their homes or risk being killed. UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Antonio Guterres, says, "These people can receive tents, can receive food, can receive water, but that is not what they want. What they want is to be able to go back home and to restart their lives." The video features Archbishop Bashar Warda of Erbil reciting the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic.

"For me, [ISIS] is a cancer," the Herald quoted Warda as saying in regards to the unlikely partnership of a highly respected clergyman and a modern.

The music video by **Ooberfuse** is on YouTube at <<http://tinyurl.com/refug>>.



WELCOME

To all our visitors this weekend



The prayer of faith will save the sick. James 5:15

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, Elaine Bellock, Eric Braham, Pat Brennan, Maureen Brodeur, Jim Cavanaugh, Cheryl, Dan Doyle, Frank Falcone, Joe & Peg Farrell, Mary Finlay, John Flaherty, Hayley Kuhn, Maria Ludwig, Joseph Montgomery, Adalcina Antao Moreira, Fr. Charles Parr, Michael Papalos, John Pra, Christopher Raiola, Tom Warren, Diane Zadrozny.

If you know someone whose name should be removed, please keep us informed. To add a name, please fill out a form on the desk in the church vestibule or in the rectory.

< KID'S KORNER >

Cycle B

Gospel Today
 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 6:1-6a

Not everyone in Jesus' hometown treated Him with the honor and respect He deserved. Jesus said to them "only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor". He went on to other places where people had more faith in Him.

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Always honor & respect God, our parents/families, our communities, country and world.

Draw you and your family/friends on the ground watching fireworks as we gather in our hometowns.

May Jesus always have a place of honor in my heart.



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.

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.

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 |

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.



Notes & Remembrances

Weekly Readings - Moved

Daily scriptures and short reflections are now a regular addition to our bulletin, listed on a separate page.

Remembering our Own

Requests and donations were made in honor of the following, asking to remember them at liturgy this week. Please join with them in prayer and remembrance.

14th Week of the Year

- Al & Ann Picatelli - 5 pm
- Linda Barrett, June DeSena - 9 am
- James Fitzsimmons - 11 am

- Keith O'Doherty - Mon,
- Marisa Mendes - Thurs..

15th Week of the Year

- Sebastian Choondassery - 5 pm
- June DeSena - 9 am

The Tabernacle lamp burns in honor of Mary Murphy this week.

Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week's Collection: \$ 5203

Please sign up for electronic giving. Regularly scheduled donations through electronic giving help us budget better, and it provides donors with accurate records of their payments. Visit stthommore.weshare-online.org today to sign up for automatic donations and schedule your regular parish donations. It's that simple. If you need help, call the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Are you Registered?

Our parish invites all to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Households wishing to join are asked to register as "official" members. Forms are in the vestibule and parish office. If you would like a form sent to you or you're not sure if you're registered, call the office or email info@stmnj.org.

Why register? For yourself to receive pertinent information; for us, so we can plan accordingly.



ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH

MAIL: P.O. Box 286, Convent Station, NJ 07961

GPS: 4 Convent Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

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

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

Sunday Eucharist:

Saturday 5 pm; Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm

Weekday Eucharist: Monday - Saturday: 8:15 am

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.

Holy Days - 8:15 am, 12:10, 7:00 pm

Information: info@stmnj.org

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

Bill McGuire, parish mgr, wmcguire.stmnj@gmail.com, ext. 104

Pat Schell, secretary, secretary.stmnj@gmail.com, ext. 103

Fr. Das , ext. 108



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: _____

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

First Reading: Amos 7:12-15

Amos preached about 750 years before Christ and was the first prophet whose words were put into writing. At that time, the Jewish people were split into two kingdoms: Israel in the north and Judah in the south. God sent Amos from the southern kingdom of Judah to preach to the people in the north. So he faithfully went there, to a place known as the shrine of Bethel. As so often happens to prophets, the priest wasn't pleased that he came.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Today and for the next few weeks, we will be reading from the letter to the Ephesians. Ephesus, a major seaport on the western coast of what is today Turkey, was a center for early Christians. Today's passage is the beginning of the letter and is a prayer praising God for the good things God has done for us.



Parish on a Journey

Criteria for a Parish— Part 3

We continue Baltimore Archdiocese's checklist of criteria for a good parish. While it is not possible to rate high in every area, these criteria offer a way "to get objective measurement of our relative strengths and weaknesses so we can grow by capitalizing on strengths and shoring up weaknesses." Something concrete to strive for.

Last 4 criteria which focus on what a church does.

8. **Evangelization.** A good parish experiences the call of Christ to spread the Gospel and responds with an active program of evangelization. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is seen as a vital part of parish life, and people are active in the ministries of sharing the faith.

9. **Service to the poor.** A good parish will, in line with the church's preferential option for the poor, direct its services especially to the poor.

10. **Presence to the neighborhood.** As a part of its service mission, a good parish is involved in the life of its surrounding neighborhood.

11. **Other service ministry.** People will be concerned with and active in ministries which promote equality, freedom, justice, and peace.

God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart
Readings for this Sunday

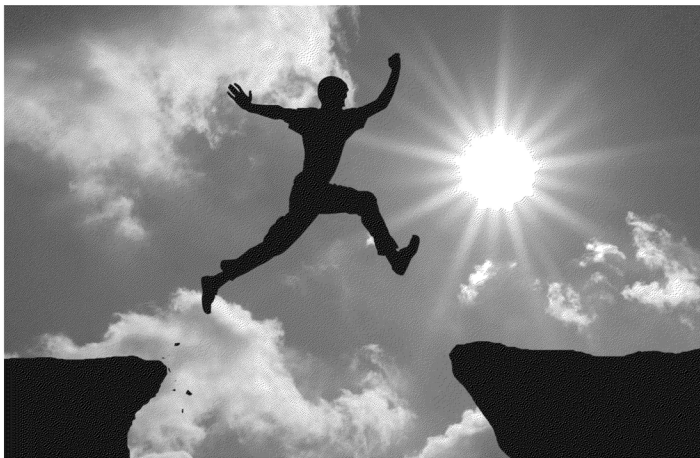
Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6

God's Grace IS Enough

Suggested Reflection Questions

- When have you experienced the Holy Spirit "setting you on your feet"? Once you were on your feet, where did God send you?
- Recall a time in your life when God's "grace was sufficient" to see you through difficulties. When has your own weakness allowed God's strength to show?
- What do you think it was like for Jesus to be rejected in his hometown? What do you think it means that he was not able to do any mighty deeds there?

The warmer season makes for relaxation and creativity. It's movie time. If you have movie that would make for a good group discussion? *Tell Fr. Joe.*



SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2015

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Spirit of power

Ezekiel today uses the expression “the spirit entered into me and set me on my feet,” a rather graphic description of the Spirit’s power, important because “spirit” can seem abstract, airy, and forgettable. But God’s spirit is power. It “sets us on our feet,” it catapults us into action as it once *drove* Jesus into the desert to be tempted. It gives us the words we need to stand against evil and to act righteously. Yesterday, we expressed our patriotic spirit using many of these same images of ideals, strength, power, and action. Do you treasure the very Spirit of God at work in you as much as you value your country?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6 (101)*. “A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.”

MONDAY, JULY 6

FEAST OF MARIA GORETTI, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Pardon, please

“What is the joy of God? It is to forgive!” Pope Francis says. Saint Maria Goretti understood this at the age of 11 when she forgave her murderer on her deathbed. Her mercy led her attacker to ask for forgiveness from Goretti’s mother, who, following her daughter’s wishes, gave it. Choose love over hate. That is the simple message of our faith.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 28:10-22a; Matthew 9:18-26 (383)*. “Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you.”

TUESDAY, JULY 7

Prepare yourself for battle

The devil you know is better than the one you don’t. Get to know the evil temptations in your life, such as looking for a scapegoat for your troubles, finding the easy way out, indulging in your desires to an excess, or dismissing the humanity of another. Anyone who has studied the Holocaust, slavery and human trafficking, or right-to-life issues knows that evil actions start with little moral concessions that build into great crimes against humanity. Saint Paul urges Christians to put on the “full armor of God” in the fight against evil.” The sole element of that armor is love.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 32:23-33; Matthew 9:32-38 (384)*. “A demoniac who could not speak was brought to Jesus, and when the demon was driven out the mute man spoke.”



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

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

Go to Joseph

“Go to Joseph” is a phrase often associated with Saint Joseph. The actual origin of the phrase, however, stems from Joseph in the book of Genesis. Joseph stored up what was good in times of abundance and distributed it to those in need when famine hit. The invitation to “Go to Joseph” is a reminder that when times are good and spiritual consolation abounds, you should take heed. Take note: The grains of truth gathered today will sustain you when you are hungry. For in times of dryness, these reminders of God’s goodness will carry you through.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10:1-7 (385)*. “As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”

THURSDAY, JULY 9

Knowing the one within

“The more you learn to love God,” Henri Nouwen once wrote, “the more you learn to know and to cherish yourself.” Coming to realize this simple fact is the journey of a lifetime. The more you come to know yourself, the more you can see the handiwork of God in your life and your being. This self-knowledge is a gift not only to you but to the world. The more you know, the more you can share. Be yourself, be God’s, and be ready to discover a world richer than you ever could have imagined.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Matthew 10:7-15 (386)*. “Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”

FRIDAY, JULY 10

Who will speak?

It is oddly comforting to know that the Lord promised us that if we follow him, we will not have an easy time of it. He warned his first disciples that trials, disagreements, and even persecutions would be part of life. And so they are. It is often difficult to find one’s way in the midst of dissension. Yet faith calls us to open our hearts and to allow the promised Spirit to guide us when what we are to do seems less than clear. The Spirit will answer if we but ask. In Catholic tradition, prayers to the Holy Spirit are less common than those to the Father and the Son, but no less effective. Take time today to pray: “Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. Fill my heart.”

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30; Matthew 10:16-23 (387)*. “When the hour comes, you will be given what you are to say.”

SATURDAY, JULY 11 FEAST OF BENEDICT, ABBOT

A truly golden Rule

When Benedict wrote a book of precepts for monks living in community back in the early 500s, he could not have imagined the influence they would have over time. The Rule of Saint Benedict ended up being one of the most important influences on medieval Europe. During a time of barbarian invasions, violent conflict, and wide illiteracy, the Rule embodied the ideals of a constitution, the rule of law, democratic principles, and the dignity of manual labor. Give thanks today for the vision that inspired the Rule and for the monastics who preserved it for posterity during some pretty dark days.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Matthew 10:24-33 (388)*. “No disciple is above his teacher.”

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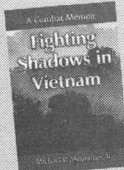
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The world was a playground for Mickey, a naive Irish American kid bored with his life. His father served in World War II, his brother was a Marine in Vietnam; now it was his turn. His 365 days in Vietnam builds in torment until an attack on a bunker complex in Cambodia. Wounded, his friend captured, he becomes a tormented survivor knowing he is always just a heartbeat from death.

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