

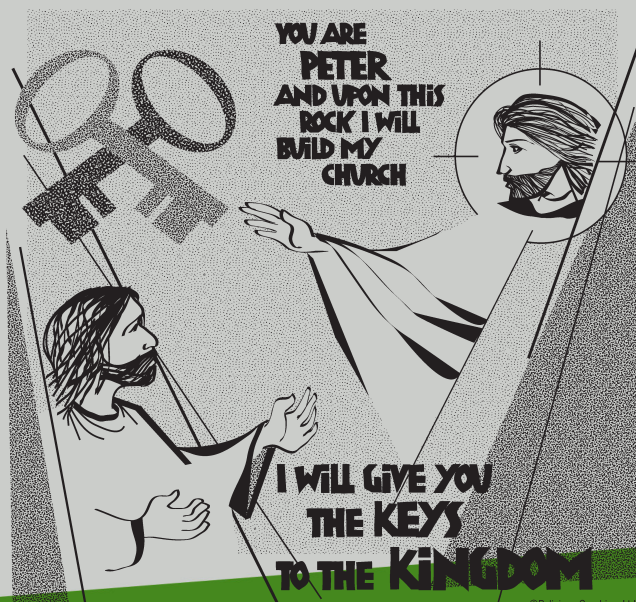
St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

Convent Station, NJ

973-267-5330 • www.stmnj.org



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 Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.



August 27, 2017 • Day of the Lord

Separated & Divorced

A new support group at Assumption Parish. Every 2nd Monday of the month. Discussions usually led by Dr. Sharon Ryan-Montgomery, Ph.D. and invited special guests. The next topic on September 11 is "Bridging the Communication Gap between Men and Women." Meetings are held at the Church in the Music Room in Rauscher Hal, 7-8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Religious Education-It's TIME

It's time to prepare for Rel. Education for next year. Please register your children by clicking on the link on the front of the parish website.

We are also looking for volunteers in the parish to help with coordinating or teaching in the program.

Life-Changing Illness Retreat

Gennesaret is designed to provide a spiritual and temporal oasis for those suffering with a life changing illness. Weekend of Oct. 20-22 at Archdiocesan Retreat Center, Kearny from 2:15 Friday to 1:30 Sunday. No cost. Info: Linda Capobianco 732-608-7277; Hilare Reinold 732-566-7237; Peggy Walsh 908-499-7677

Pizza Night for Women

Mon. Sept. 25, 7-9 pm at Pope John XXIII HS- "Pizza Night for Women" with Bishop Serratelli. Open to high school and college aged women discerning their vocation. For details, please contact the office of the Delegate for Religious at 973-777-8818 ext. 207, or kerry@patersondiocese.org.

Caregiver Cafe

Caregiver Cafe on Sept. 5, is a social evening of Family Caregivers to spend time with others who understand their issues. It is not a support group or presentation but resources are available. Light supper.

Visiting Nurse Association of Northern NJ. 175 South Street, Morristown, 6-7:30 pm. RSVP: 973-993-1160, x534.

Happy Birthday Isabel Rich

Isabel is celebrating her 97th birthday on Tuesday. As she begins her 98th year of life we ask God's blessing on our parish elder!

Scriptures during the Week

Meditate on the scriptures during the week. **Take Five for Faith** is located on the website. Pull down "Faith Formation" and find it at the bottom.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Jeremiah often anguished over the difficulty in being a prophet. Proclaiming God's message made him very unpopular. Today we hear why he still felt compelled to do it.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Toward the end of Paul's letter to the Romans, he deals with the moral demands made on those who follow Christ. In today's reading, Paul reminds us that living a Christian life which so often includes sacrifice is like an act of liturgical worship in which we offer ourselves to God.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

If you were asked, how would you explain Jesus to a person who had not heard of him?

For Children:

Who do you tell people Jesus is?

Gathering in the Lord's Name

The Gathering of the Community, is as the title suggests, to gather those assembled into a community. This is an important part of our celebration, often overlooked. This prepares us to hear what the Spirit is saying in the Proclamation, and to celebrate the Eucharist. The Gathering establishes the mood of the liturgy. Through discriminating choice from the components it can enhance the sense of celebration and community (rather than introspective individualism). It is worth reflecting how greetings by ushers and one another, hymns, announcements, the Greeting and penitential rite, if used, can achieve this.

In the early church, the greeting established the community. By the fifth century in the West the Collect helped to collect the eucharistic community.

There is a growing revival of a sprinkling with water. Such sprinkling is particularly appropriate in the Easter Season, with its recovered association with baptism.

The greeting and Collect form the primary elements of the Gathering. Singing together powerfully binds people and it is worth noting where hymns or songs are placed in our Liturgy. The shape of the Gathering is given as: song of praise, greeting, prayer. Having variety which reflects the liturgical season or particular day assists the Gathering in fulfilling its purpose.

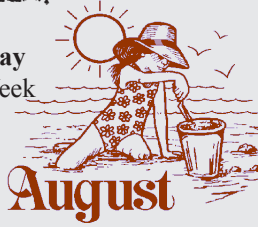
In the course of history devotional material increased and distorted the proportions of this "entrance rite" so that the readings were shortened as the beginning of the service grew longer. Vatican II restored the shape of the liturgy, and renewed our sense of the community gathering to hear and respond to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

What's Happening This Week?

Every Sunday
Pound A Week

Sept. 21 –
Pastoral
Council

Orientation, 7:30 pm



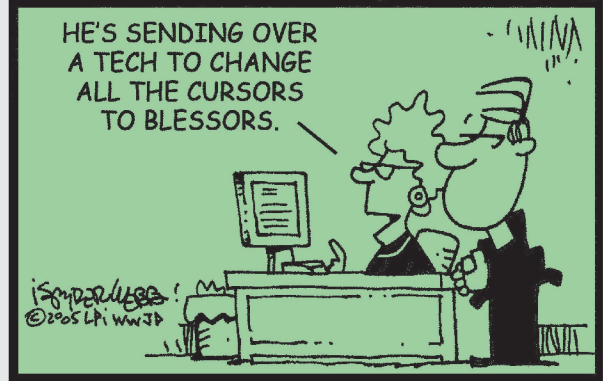
August

Stewardship of Treasure

Last week's
Collection:
\$ 6356



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QUESTION: If I chew gum before Communion, am I breaking the fast?

Canon Law states: "One who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion" (919. 1). Most chewing gums are not food. It's an item like mouthwash or toothpaste that you consume for reasons other than providing nourishment for your body and doesn't break the fast.

Nevertheless, chewing gum isn't necessarily appropriate during Mass. It may distract people around you, but also what do you do with the gum when it's time for Communion? (Certainly, never stick it under the pew!) However, some with saliva difficulties may need to chew gum. Fasting before Eucharist reminds us of the difference between earthly food, which sustains perishable life, and the food of the Eucharist, which is key for eternal life. By observing the fast we approach Communion with a physical and spiritual hunger.

"God never gets tired of forgiving us; it's we who get tired of asking forgiveness."

— Pope Francis

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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.*

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