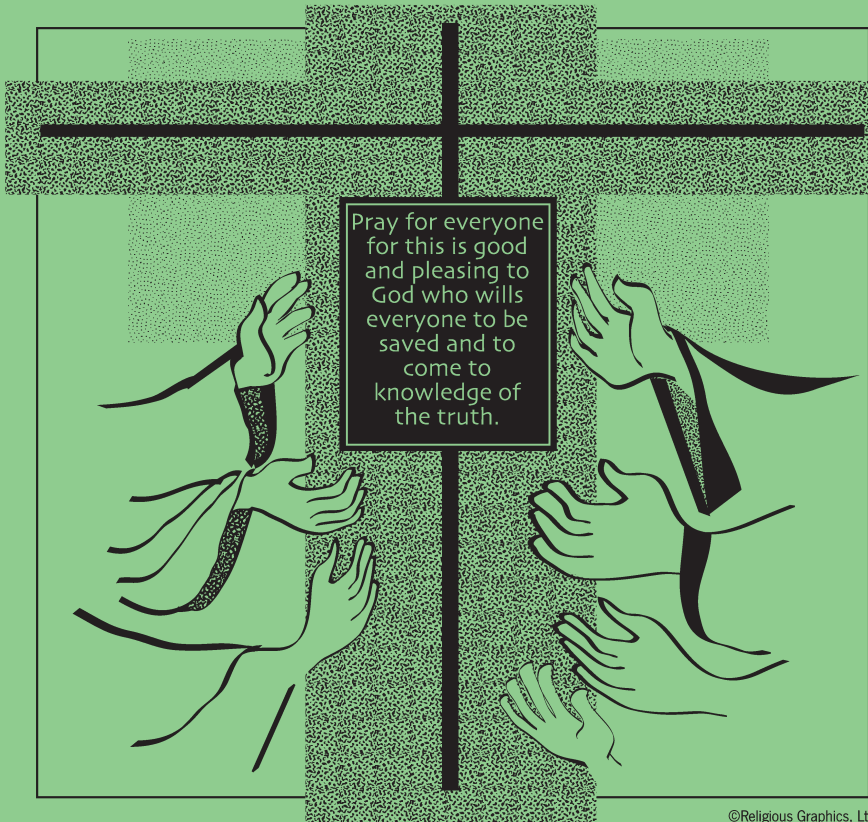


ST. THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC PARISH
CONVENT STATION, N J
973-267-5330 · WWW.STMNJ.ORG



SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Pray for everyone
for this is good
and pleasing to
God who will
save everyone
and bring them
to knowledge of
the truth.

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Mail: P.O. Box 286

Convent Station, NJ 07961

GPS: 4 Convent Rd.
Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

See us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter@StThomMore

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 This Week?

Sunday

Pound A Week
Gala Raffle Ticket Sale
Sept. 27– Women's Guild
Mass & Mtg., 7 pm

Every Sunday

Pound A Week



Women's Guild

The Women's Guild first meeting and Mass is Sept 27. An open invitation to all women of the parish to attend. A fun time to be had by all.

Senior Group

Assumption Parish extends an invitation to join their group. Monthly meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of the month after 12:05 pm Mass.

Thom's Supper Club

We are rejuvenating Thom's Supper Club once again. It is a monthly 'no-frills' supper outing for single and re-single people. If interested, contact Joan Cummings, 973-377-6708.

Stewardship of Treasure

Last week: \$6733
Online for month: \$1560

Question for the Week

For Adults:

Can cheating and deception ever be justified?

For Children:

If someone treats you unfairly, do you have the right to do the same to them?



Religious Ed begins in 1 month!

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.

High School Open Houses

The Academy of Saint Elizabeth. Sun. Oct. 2, 1 pm; Thurs. Oct. 13, 7pm, Thurs. Nov. 10th, 7 pm. Info: 973-290-5225, 973-290-5200, www.aosenj.org

Oak Knoll (Grades 7-12). Sat. Oct. 1 & Sat. Nov. 5, 9:30-11:30; Wed. Dec. 7, 4:30-5:30. Info: 908-522-8109, www.oakknoll.org.

Villa Walsh Academy (Grades 7-12). Sun. Oct. 2, 2-4 pm. Info: 973-538-3680, VWA@villawalsh.org, www.villawalsh.org.

Oratory Prep. Sun. Oct. 2, 1-3 pm, Thurs. Oct. 20, 6:45-8:15 pm. Info: 908-273-5771, admissions@oratoryprep.org, oratoryprep.org.

Principles of Catholic social teaching: respect for the life and dignity of the human person; call to family, community, and participation; rights and responsibilities; a preferential option for the poor; the dignity of work and the rights of workers; solidarity; and care for God's creation. A Guide when deciding to vote.

Bus Leaves at 5:45 pm



SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH

50TH ANNIVERSARY

PRESENTS THE

*Spirit of Charity
Gala*

THE
GREAT GATSBY

Saturday, October 29

WEEKLY READINGS & THOUGHTS

Sunday, September 18, 2016

Faith is lived. But it's also prayed. Perhaps the most distinguishing thing we do is gather to pray: at Mass and sacraments, the blessing before meals, the Liturgy of the Hours, or Rosary. Prayer isn't always formal or complex. St. Thérèse of Lisieux called prayer a surge of the heart, a simple look toward heaven. St. Francis de Sales declared, "Every one of us needs half an hour of prayer each day except when we're busy—then we need an hour."

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:10-13. "It is my wish, then, that in every place [the people] should pray, lifting up holy hands."

Monday, September 19

Halfway there. Januarius, patron saint of Naples and a third-century bishop, was martyred during a persecutions of Christians. A cathedral in Naples contains a vial kept in a reliquary said to hold some of the saint's congealed blood. Three times a year the vial is removed and the blood liquefies. During Pope Francis' visit to Naples, the blood half liquefied when the pope kissed the reliquary. Cardinal Crescenzio Sepe declared, "The blood has half liquefied, which shows that St. Januarius loves our pope and Naples." Francis responded, "We can see the saint only half loves us. We must all spread the word, so that he loves us more!"

Proverbs 3:27-34; Luke 8:16-18. "No one lights a lamp and hides it under a jar, or under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light."

Tuesday, September 20

Courage of convictions. Martyrdom means bearing witness to the truth with one's death. There have been a multitude of Christians—from the first martyr Saint Stephen up to the present—who have been willing to die rather than give up their beliefs. Although most Christians aren't tested to the point of making this ultimate sacrifice, each still must choose to take up the cross and endure hardship and struggle. When faced with challenges, look to the martyrs for strength and support in keeping the faith.

Proverbs 21:1-13; Luke 8:19-21. "My mother and brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it."

Wednesday, September 21, St. Matthew

The little we know is enough. History dimmed some of what we know about Matthew. He may or may not have been the author of the gospel that bears his name. Possibly he was called Levi. Probably he was martyred but we are not sure. And we do not know when he died or when he do know

is that Matthew was one of the first apostles and before that, he had been a tax collector. Those two facts tell us that Jesus was not afraid to reach out to those who were looked down upon, the scorned and the outcasts. He calls those who are imperfect to come and follow him. So you and I have no excuse. We may feel we are not worthy, but we cannot hide behind that. All are called to follow.

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13 (643). "I have come to call, not the self-righteous, but sinners."

Thursday, September 22

Bedazzle the mundane. To us, everyday life may sometimes feel mundane, but not to God. "It is possible that God says every morning, 'Do it again' to the sun; and every evening, 'Do it again' to the moon," G.K. Chesterton wrote. "It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them." Perhaps to God, all things are new—beautiful creations set to dazzle the world. Try to enter each day in the same mindset, ready for goodness and steeped in grace.

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9. "Even the thing of which we say, 'See, this is new!' has already existed in the ages that preceded us."

Friday, September 23

Few American Catholics would recognize the name "Pius of Pietrelcina," but say "Padre Pio" and eyes light up. Given the name Pio (Pius) when he became a Capuchin, he is often venerated as having the sacred stigmata, the marks of Jesus' Passion on his own body. The church stays neutral over miraculous signs, but there is no argument over Pio's kindness, compassion, and mercy. Perform a miracle today—soften your heart.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22. "But who do you say that I am?"

Saturday, September 24

Maternal mediato. Mary, the mother of God, the mother of the church, the mother of all living—your mother—like any good mother, is on her children's side. She intercedes on your behalf to bring you to the gifts of salvation. There are many Marian prayers to choose from: the Hail Mary, the Memorare, or say a whole Rosary. Call upon her by her many titles—Blessed Virgin, Queen of Heaven—or speak to her simply from the heart. No matter what, she's always there. Go ahead and honor her. Let her lead you to her son.

Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8; Luke 9:43b-45 (454). "They were all amazed at his every deed."

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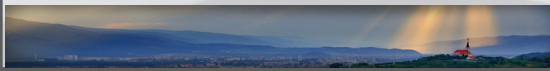
Fr. Joe Farias, jfarias@stmnj.org, ext. 102
Bill McGuire, parish mgr, wmcguire@stmnj.org, ext. 104
Pat Schell, secretary, secretary@stmnj.org, ext. 103
Fr. Das Choondassery (in residence), ext. 108

Parish on a Journey

*Proud of our Past,
Planning for our Future*

*Something to think about:
The "Millennial" generation, born
between 1987-1993, makes up 23%
of US Catholics, and 45% of these
Millennial Catholics are Hispanic.
Considering these statistics, in what
ways can we better serve young adults,
single and married, living in our
community?*

*Even young adults who come to church
regularly are quick to say it's difficult
to feel 'at home' in most parishes. How
can we be more welcoming to young
adults?*



Today's Readings

Amos 8:4-7; Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13
Helping the Poor, Living In Peace

- The prophet Amos assures us that God takes careful note of the way the greedy dehumanize the poor. How does greed damage our relationship with God and each other?
- The Lord lifts up the poor from places of shame and dishonor. Both the psalms and Jesus proclaim a world order wherein the poor are elevated to sit with princes. How, as people of faith, can we participate in this vision of justice in our everyday lives?
- Paul writes to Timothy about the need for the faithful to pray for those in power so that they (and all) may live with dignity and peace. He encourages them to lift up their hands in prayer without anger or argument. How might we heed Paul's words today to engage in societal change that seeks the recognition that all people deserve to live with dignity and peace?

IF YOU CAN BE
TRUSTED WITH
THE SMALL STUFF,
THE BIG STUFF
WILL FOLLOW.



Spencer Welch
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GOOD DEAL.
I FINISHED THE
HORS D'OEUVRES.

