

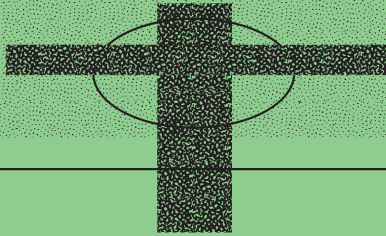
ST. THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC PARISH
CONVENT STATION, N J
973-267-5330 · WWW.STMNJ.ORG



SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**THIS IS HOW WE
KNOW WHAT LOVE IS:**



**BLESSED ARE THE
ONES WHO KEEP
FAITH FOREVER,
SECURE JUSTICE FOR
THE OPPRESSED, AND
GIVE FOOD TO
THE HUNGRY**

**CHRIST GAVE
UP HIS LIFE
FOR US**

**AND
WE TOO MUST
GIVE UP OUR
LIVES FOR
OTHERS**

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Morristown, NJ 07960

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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 This Week?

Sunday

Pound A Week
Gala Raffle Ticket Sale

Tuesday 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 Tuesday evening. 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-singled people. If interested, contact Joan Cummings, 973-377-6708.

Stewardship of Treasure

Last week: \$6032



Question for the Week

For Adults:

What are the "rewards" of caring for the needs of the poor?

For Children:

What is one thing you and your family could do this week to help those who are poor or sick?



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.

Catholic 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

Morris Catholic. Wed. Oct. 12, 7pm & Sun. Oct. 23, 2 pm. Info: Maureen Costello at mcostello@morriscatholic.org or www.morriscatholic.org to register.

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.

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.

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

Bus Leaves at 5:45 pm



Saturday, October 29

Parish on a Journey

**Proud of our Past,
Planning for our Future**

Something to think about:

**Do I call myself a parishioner of STM? Why?
A reprint from five years ago:**

I visited a parish a few weeks after my home parish's centennial celebration. This parish is in the shore area and is a bit younger than ours. It was established in 1972. The pastor is a friend of mine from Notre Dame days.

The parish began with 130 families and a home that served as rectory, chapel, parish and religious ed. center. The parish knew its first priority was a church building. Fr. Miele, their first pastor said the parish was built on the ideals of Vatican II. "By implementing these changes, we attracted people and they became active, offering their time, talent, and treasure. People knew it was their parish, and that they had to work together for it to survive."

In the early years, the first ministries evolved which included children ministry, religious education, sacraments, and a music ministry. The first Parish Council meeting was held January 1980 and in 1982, the first RCIA took place.

The second pastor whose goal was to build membership and income arrived in 1982. "We needed to hire a staff and get more things done in the parish," according to Fr. Bob. A stewardship program was begun, a communications committee launched a public relations effort. The efforts paid off. The parish's reputation became known, many found their way to the parish. Next came an expansion of spiritual and outreach ministries. Faith sharing groups contributed to the sense of community. In the late 1980s a community outreach (COR) committee, a Hospitality Room for homeless families, and the Human Concerns, Bereavement, Welcoming and Communications Committees were formed. A Peace Garden was planted, and the first live manger appeared that Christmas.

By 1990 the parish tripled, a Parish Center was built, 350 children were in the rel. ed. program. In 1992, ground was broken for an expansion to include seating for 750 people in the worship area, a new chapel, eight classes, a 100-seat



These daily scripture reflections are on the website under "Faith Formation." A few 'hard' copies are in the vestibule as well. Download an app for daily reflections at: <http://www.takefiveforfaith.com/mobile-app>

cont. from Parish on a Journey

auditorium and staff office space.

"We earned a reputation as an inclusive parish, where everyone had a place," said Fr. Bob. "People who felt they did not belong in another parish came here to get involved."

The parish welcomed it's third pastor in 2005, who maintained this special sense of community. Fr. Gene said, "The leadership of my predecessors empowered all of the members TO BE the parish. With Vatican II, the Church recognized that all the baptized comprise the Church, not just the ordained, and ministry is a function of all. My goal is to continue their effort."

This 2,000 family parish is celebrating it's 40th anniversary and continues to grow and thrive. They say that their secret is the people: their commitment to one another, the parish at large and the larger community.

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH
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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

**One Day Pilgrimage to Seton Shrine,
Emmitsburg, MD**
with the Sisters of Charity
Tuesday, October 11

Walk in the footsteps of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. Enjoy a private Mass in the Basilica, catered lunch. Guided Tour of historic sites.

\$75 includes bus, lunch, all tour costs.
Info: 973-290-5409/5454

Bus departs from the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse at 7:30 a.m.
Return to Convent Station 7:00 – 7:30 pm

Today's Readings

Amos 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31
Avoiding Excess, Help Others

- Today we hear the Prophet Amos' words of warning for those whose indulgence in excess has made them resistant to the commandments of God. What can we do to avoid the pitfalls of excess that surround us? How do these things cause complacency?
- The psalms are both triumphant songs of praise or laments to God, who continues to protect, heal, forgive and sustain the vulnerable. If God is on the side of those who suffer, how do we make sense of the suffering abundant in the world?
- The rich man in Jesus' story ignores the plight of poor Lazarus lying at his door. He was so consumed by his life of comfort and pleasure he gave no thought to Lazarus. Are there people in our own communities that we are ignoring in pursuit of comfort for ourselves?

