

St. Thomas More Catholic Parish



We exist for one reason: to come to know and be formed by the Word of God and the Message of Jesus. When we gather in prayer and worship, in service and community, we assemble as disciples and friends with the Lord in our midst. Rooted in our Roman Catholic tradition, we are proud of our parish heritage and hopeful for our future.

July 22, 2018 • Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blast from the Past(or)

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 22, 2018

'Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock, says the Lord.....'

With that, the prophet Jeremiah offers the biblical equivalent of 'just wait until your father gets home,' or, 'just wait until your mother finds out...'. Such declarations are usually pronounced to put a kid on notice that their behavior has not been acceptable. I can recall thinking it a grand idea for a bunch of us kids to make a Bar-B-Q campfire from the pilot light in the basement furnace. But apparently this grieved my mom (to this day I think she overreacted, but that's just me. Discuss.). The proclamation came loud and swift: just wait until your father gets home. What I had done and what I had failed to do would soon meet its consequence. Today Jeremiah proclaims to the leaders of his people that they have egregiously misbehaved in their abuse of those they were called to serve. Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock...you have not cared for them, but I will take care to punish your evil deeds. Of course, the Prophet's indictment still holds weight in our own day. How many of our civic and religious leaders made a cottage industry out of claiming moral authority in solidarity with the oppressed? Examples are legion: from televangelists and self-proclaimed socialists who are worth millions to elected officials in gated communities decrying border walls (and doing so with a straight face) to environmental watchdogs flying their private jets to legislators moralizing on behalf of children while excluding the unborn from their crusade. How can we address this crisis in leadership? Well, as Jesus observes the sheep without a shepherd, He alludes that true civic/religious leadership is a calling and not a career. We can fill this leadership vacuum by faithfully praying, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done. This makes for unease because it means those in power will one day be accounted by the Author of Life. One day, the Lord Himself will appoint shepherds for them so that they no longer fear or tremble; and none shall be missing, says the Lord (Jer. 23: 4). Just wait until Our Father gets home.

God bless you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**PREPARING FOR
NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44
Elisha was the successor of the great prophet Elijah, who lived about 800 years before Christ. Elisha was noted for his miraculous deeds. Next week we will hear of one such deed performed during a time of famine.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6
The first three chapters of the letter to the Ephesians teach doctrine; next week we will begin the next part of the letter which contains practical advice for Christian living. In that passage, we will hear the author speak of seven ways in which Christians are united. In one sense, this is the foundation of the ecumenical movement.

This Week's Questions

For Adults: How can you make more opportunities in your life for rest and quiet time with Jesus?

For Children: When will you take time to stop and pray this week?

Parish Staff

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.
Pastor
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Fr. Joe Davis
Weekend Assistant

William McGuire
Parish Manager
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Pat Schell
Secretary
secretary@stmnj.org

Mark Davis
Music - Organist

Frank Miles
Trustee

Mary Murphy
Trustee

Want to join the St. Thomas More family?

New parishioners can register at any time! Please call or stop by the Parish Office between 9 am - 2 pm, Monday through Wednesday, or send an email to info@stmnj.org. We'd love to welcome you!

Weekly Mass Intentions:

Monday, July 23: Saint Bridget Of Sweden
8:15 am - James and Peggy Lavin

Tuesday, July 24: Saint Sharbel Makhluf
8:15 am - Special Intention for Fr. Joe Farias

Wednesday, July 25: Saint James The Apostle
8:15 am - Deacon Anthony Ciocco

Thursday, July 26: Saints Joachim And Anne
8:15 am - People of the Parish

Friday, July 27: Blessed Antonio Lucci
8:15 am - Jean Lawler

Saturday, July 28: Blessed Stanley Rother
5:00 pm - Lee Sember

Sunday, July 29: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 am - Margaret Farkas
11:00 am - Kathleen Sanger
7:00 pm - Tucker Helstrom

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week in memory of James and Peggy Lavin.

Mass Cards:

Having a Mass offered is a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary or for any other special intention. To obtain a Mass Card, please visit the Parish Office any time between 9:00 AM and 2:00PM Monday through Wednesday.

Thank You for Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure!

Weekly Collection for 7/14-7/15/18: \$3,001.25
Cool Air Fund Collection for 7/14-7/15/18: \$ 1,071.00



Weekly Eucharists

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm

(Note: 7pm Mass will not be held on holiday weekends)

Monday – Friday: 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.

Holy Days

8:15 am, 12:10 pm, 7 pm

www.stmnj.org

Mail: P.O. Box 286

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973-267-5330

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday

9:00 am–2 pm

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