

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

4 Convent Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

973- 267-5330

www.stmnj.org

info@stmnj.org

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.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time- September 29, 2019

Parish Staff

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.
Pastor
tfallone@stmnj.org

Fr. Joe Davis
Weekend Assistant

Fr. Daniel Chajkowski
In Residence
lionheartdan@gmail.com

Pat Schell
Parish Secretary
secretary@stmnj.org

Mark Davis
Music - Organist

Frank Miles
Trustee

Mary Murphy
Trustee

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm (*Please note there will be no 7 pm Mass on holiday weekends.*)

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday 8:15 am

Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm; Holy Day 8:15 am and 12:10 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance)

Saturday: 3:30 pm or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Every First Friday of the Month following the 8:15 am Mass, concluding with Benediction at Noon

Additional Sacraments

Baptism: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least 8 weeks in advance of the desired date.

Marriage: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance of the desired date.

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, Tuesday or Thursday, or send an email to info@stmnj.org. We'd love to welcome you!!



Blast From the Past(or)
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 29, 2019

And lying at his door was a poor man....

We want to avoid the eternal fate of the rich man in the Gospel. Jesus is clear that the rich man received myriad comforts in his earthly life, yet he never helped the poor man at his door. As Jesus tells the story, Lazarus goes to heaven at death and the rich man, not so much. Late one evening last week, while I was hard at work watching football in the rectory, I spied the silhouette of a guy peering in the rectory window. I was startled and yelled at him through the window. He left. Had he not left, I would have unleashed my *Thundercrack Powerbomb* on him. This is a wrestling move I've carefully honed over time, having been introduced to it in my youth during summers in Rangoon (name the movie, and the character, and win a prize). I often practice my move on the parish lawn, which causes passers-by to pull over, clearly aghast at its sheer power and controlled fury. I've seen teams of Madison Avenue cyclists and joggers stop and breathe deeply into a paper bag. Yeah, the *Thundercrack* is that devastating. I don't even like to talk about it. Thankfully, I did not have to resort to the *Thundercrack*, but I also did not help the Peering Person. Do I know that he needed help and was not instead there for a nefarious purpose? I don't. Will I avoid the judgment of the rich man? I hope so. Jesus' parable is a stark reminder that God has become Lazarus for our sake, and we are obliged to help each other out of our own eternal debt. Wealth is not evil, but when it calcifies the heart and blinds us to our shared human condition, it can be damning. Note how the rich man knows Lazarus' name and yet still looks down on him from the afterlife. That's a major spiritual problem. Even the dogs take better care of Lazarus than the rich man. That's a big red flag for us Christians. In fact, the deacon St. Ephrem wrote, *we cannot hope for pardon in Thee unless the fruits of pardon can be seen in us...* Boom! *Thundercrack!*

God Bless you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



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

Weekly Collection for September 21-22: \$6,738.25

Religious Education Registration

Parents, if you haven't already, please register your children on our parish website under the "Religious Education for Children" section under the "Faith Formation" tab. Please email or call the Parish Office with any questions.



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

- Monday, September 30: Saint Jerome**
 8:15 am- Peggy Farrell
- Tuesday, October 1: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**
 8:15 am- Bill Kearney
- Wednesday, October 2: Feast of the Guardian Angels**
 8:15 am- John O'Connell
- Thursday, October 3: Saint Theodora Guérin**
 8:15 am- George Hauck
- Friday, October 4: Saint Francis of Assisi**
 8:15 am- Roger George Link
- Saturday, October 5: Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska**
 8:15 am- Robert Boyle
 5:00 pm- Michael Szarawarski
- Sunday, October 6: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 9:00 am- Maureen Brodeur
 11:00 am- Inglese Family
 7:00 pm- Edward Rao



Mass Cards

Having a Mass offered is a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or for any special intention you may have. Mass Cards can be obtained by visiting the Parish Office Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.



Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in praying for all who are ill in our community, and in a particular way for Phil Barrett, Bob Bass, Karen Cutaneo, Fred Donikowski, Florence Kearney, Christopher Popp, Edmond Sherry and Frank Sweeney. May God bring them and their families His healing, comfort and peace. If you would like to have your name or that of a loved one included in the request for healing prayers in our weekly bulletin, please send an email to Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org.



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

We hope you'll join us on Friday, October 4 for Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Exposition at 8:30am and concluding with Benediction at Noon. Whether you can come for hours or even just 10 minutes, all are invited to spend some quiet time with Jesus.



Attention 7 pm Mass-Goers

We invite all who attend this Mass to consider serving as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. It is a beautiful way to participate even more fully in the Mass and to be an instrument of Jesus' love to those around us. There is no time commitment outside of Mass, so it's a great opportunity for those with even the busiest of schedules to serve. Parishioners and non-parishioners are most welcome to join this ministry. If you think God might be calling you to serve in this way, please contact Sue Marshall for more information at smarshall@stmnj.org. Thank you!



"Sprucing Up" Saint Thomas More - Update

As you can see, the first shipment of trees has arrived!! We expect to receive the remainder for planting soon and will be sure to keep everyone posted. A date for the blessing of all of the trees will be set once planting is complete, so please stay tuned...



"A Night at the Museum" Gala

As a reminder, A Night at the Museum Gala will be held on Saturday, October 19 at the Newark Museum, 49 Washington Street in Newark, to benefit our parish. This Black Tie Optional Event will begin with cocktails at 5:30 pm with dinner immediately following. Music will be provided by The Infernos. A complimentary bus will be leaving St. Thomas More at 4:45 pm to bring attendees to the Newark Museum and will be leaving the museum at 10:45 pm to return to the church. If you're planning to attend or would like to separately make a donation or purchase a Gala journal ad, please mail your response card back to the Parish Office, enclosing either a check or credit card information.

Also, don't forget to stop by after Mass to buy your Gala 50/50 raffle ticket. Tickets are \$50 each and one winner will take home the grand prize!!

For additional information, please contact:

- Sharon O'Neil: 973-462-5102
- Jeanne Bass: 201-400-8881
- Ginny Lund: 201-602-4665
- Mary Murphy 973-538-9896



Blessing of the Animals - October 4th at 4 pm

As we celebrate the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology, we invite everyone to bring their furry family members for a Blessing of the Animals on the parish lawn at 4 pm on Friday, October 4 (rain or shine!). It's a wonderful chance to show our pets how much we love them and to take a moment to give thanks to God for entrusting them to our care.



Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers - New Schedule Now Available

The schedule for October and November is now available in the Church vestibule and also online by logging into your St. Thomas More minister profile at: http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/Thomas_More You can also volunteer to serve on the Solemnity of All Saints by logging into your profile and selecting the Mass of your choosing. Please always feel free to contact Sue Marshall at smarshall@stmnj.org with any questions or issues. Thank you for your service to our parish!



Bishop's Annual Appeal - "For I Was Hungry"

While there are many ways to donate to the Annual Appeal, there is one option unique to people who are 70½ or over and have an IRA. If you are in this category, the IRS requires you to take a required minimum distribution from your IRA each year. As a result, this distribution is added to your taxable income and increases the amount of taxes owed to the government. However, instead of taking your required minimum distribution, you can instruct your IRA investment manager to donate this distribution to a charity such as the Bishop's Annual Appeal and this automatically omits this amount from your adjusted gross income. This tax benefit can be realized by all qualifying individuals, whether you take the standard deduction or itemize your deductions. This can be a significant benefit to you and a great way to support the work of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. For more information, call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at 937- 777-8818, ext. 218. If you are considering making a charitable donation using your IRA required minimum distribution, please be sure to first discuss this with your financial or tax advisor to make sure it is right for you.