

# *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.*

***First Sunday of Lent- March 1, 2020***

## **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  
732-340-0190

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)***  
**First Sunday of Lent**  
**March 1, 2020**

*Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted....*

Did I read that correctly? Is this the same Spirit Who rested upon Jesus in the form of a dove at His baptism? Is this the same Jesus Who taught us to pray, *lead us not in to temptation?* That can't be right. In fact, the Bible tells us elsewhere that *He Himself does not tempt anyone* (James 2:13). This confusion calls for the powerful words of the famed skeptic and master theologian, Arnold Jackson: *Watchoo talkin' 'bout, Willis?* And so Lent commences with this paradox: Faith is exposed in trial. God's Spirit breathed into Adam does not inoculate him from the serpent. God's chosen people Israel were not spared the desert, and even Jesus willingly experienced despair as He suffocated on the Cross: *My God, My God, why have You forsaken me* (Matt 27:46). God does not delight in our failure. But, in frailty our Faith is forged. Hey, we've all known need, discomfort and alienation. I once got lost in Gary, Indiana. At night. I've seen the movie *Glitter* with Mariah Carey. I've been to the Paramus Park Mall. Heck, I am a life-long Mets fan. All these things are tortuous moments of trial that prove one's mettle. Perhaps we enter Lent weak, tired, tempted and in need of a change. May the next 40 days of little Lenten sacrifices remind us that in our heartache, challenges and temptations, Jesus has been led to the desert to be with us. Lent well, because God loves you.

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



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

Weekly Collection for February 22-23: \$6,437.00



***Monthly Second Collection***

Our Second Collection will be taken next weekend, the second Sunday of the month. Thank you for your support of our parish!



***Parish Directory Participants***

If you elected to have your free 8x10 photo sent to the church, please check the back sacristy for your photo. They will be arriving in a few shipments.



**Monday, March 2: Saint Agnes of Bohemia**

8:15 am- Michael Murphy

**Tuesday, March 3: Saint Katharine Drexel**

8:15 am- Michael Murphy

**Wednesday, March 4: Saint Casimir**

8:15 am- Michael Murphy

**Thursday, March 5: Saint John Joseph of the Cross**

8:15 am- Georgeanna Caldwell

**Friday, March 6: Saint Mary Ann of Jesus of Paredes**

8:15 am- Mary Harmon

**Saturday, March 7: Saints Perpetua and Felicity**

8:15 am- Bill Kearney

5:00 pm- Mable Easton

**Sunday, March 8: Second Sunday of Lent**

9:00 am- Michael Murphy

11:00 am- David Andrew Gidich

7:00 pm- Carmen Liuzza

***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 Chris Auger, Phil Barrett, Bob Bass, Karen Cutaneo, Fred Donikowski, Florence Kearney, Barbara Kline, Anne Morrison, Bobby Polidore, Christopher Popp, Edmond Sherry, James Stewart and Flynn Sullivan. 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](mailto:smarshall@stmnj.org).



***First Friday Eucharistic Adoration***

We hope you'll join us on Friday, March 6 for Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Exposition at 8:30 am and concluding with Benediction at Noon. It's a great way to stop and reflect during this Lenten season. Whether you can come for hours or even just 10 minutes, all are invited to spend some quiet time with Jesus.

### *This Week in our Parish*

**Sunday, March 1:** 9:00 am- Religious Education, Church, Parish Office Rooms and Basement Meeting Room

**Monday, March 2:** 9:30 am- Collection Counters, Parish Office Meeting Room

6:00 pm - Fundraising Committee Meeting, Parish Office Meeting Room

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm- Welcome Home to Healing, Church

7:00 pm- Opus Dei March Evening of Reflection, Church

**Tuesday, March 3:** 7:00 pm- Pivotal Players Lenten Forum, Basement Meeting Room

**Wednesday, March 4:** 7:00 pm- Lenten Scripture Program, Basement Meeting Room

**Friday, March 6:** 8:30 am - 12:00 pm- First Friday Adoration, Church

**Sunday, March 8:** 9:00 am- Religious Education, Church, Parish Office Rooms and Basement Meeting Room

**LENT...**  
FAST • GIVE • PREPARE • PRAY

### *Welcome Home to Healing*

All Catholic Churches in Morris, Sussex and Passaic counties (including St. Thomas More) will have their doors open for Confession every Monday night in March between 7 and 8:30 p.m. as part of the Welcome Home to Healing program. All are welcome to participate in this beautiful Sacrament this Lent!

### *Pivotal Players Lenten Forum*

Join Father Tom on Tuesdays- March 3, 10 and 17- at 7:00 pm for a presentation and discussion of Bishop Robert Barron's "Catholicism: The Pivotal Players" DVD Series. Each week we'll examine a different figure who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization.

### *Lenten Scripture Program - "Genesis to Jesus"*

This 14-session video explores the divine covenants that God made with humanity in the course of salvation history. It focuses on His Old Testament covenants with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and David, and then sees how each is fulfilled in the New Testament covenant that God makes with the world through Jesus Christ. All are welcome to participate in this program led by Frank Miles at 7:00 pm each Wednesday evening starting on Ash Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the Basement Meeting Room. For further information, please call Frank at 973-538-6554.

*Attention!*

### *Friendly Reminder About Food Donations*

While we appreciate the spirit of generosity in our parish, we do have to ask that everyone please refrain from leaving any food donations that are not non-perishable. We have had two instances recently where someone left bags of raw, expired meat. Please be considerate of the health and safety of all. Let's also be compassionate and never donate anything we wouldn't serve to our own families. Thank you!



### *Food and Fellowship for Single Parishioners*

You are invited to join other single parishioners for their monthly gathering on Tuesday, March 10 at 12:30 pm at Delicious Heights Outpost by the Basking Ridge Country Club, 185 Madisonville Road, Basking Ridge. Our fellowship gathering is a no-host luncheon. Contact Monika Mangan at 973-451-1499 for more information and/or to RSVP.



*"Prayer, mercy and fasting: These three are one, and they give life to each other. Fasting is the soul of prayer; mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not all together, you have nothing. So if you pray, fast; if fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give."*

*- St. Peter Chrysologus*



As a reminder, our Clothing Drive for Catholic Charities is next weekend. Donations of gently-used clothing may be left in the designated area of the vestibule of the Church **between Thursday, March 5 and Sunday, March 8 only.** Thank you!



### *St. Patrick's Day Celebration*

St. Thomas More will hold its Annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 6 - 10 pm at the VFW Hall at 45 Tabor Road in Morris Plains. The cost will be \$35 per person, with kids 13 and under free. To join us, please place your payment in one of the envelopes found in the vestibule of the Church, indicate your name and the number of people in your party, and drop it in the collection basket or in the black mailbox outside the Parish Office. Please make checks payable to "St. Thomas More Parish." For more information, please call the Parish Office at 973-267-5330.