THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
As I sat down to write this, I took a double-take at the calendar to grasp the fact that my internship here at St. Thomas More is nearly over. Was Advent and the start of our time together really seven months ago? Is September really a tad more than two months away?

While I hope to have a few more opportunities to share what I have experienced and learned during this time at St. Thomas More, I cannot begin to thank enough all of you who have been so welcoming and supportive to me and my wife. In my introduction column in December I expressed the hope that I might return as much as I expected to gain in the nine months here. I don’t think it is possible for me to come close to balance the ledger.

A big learning this year was my need to project more when reading from the ambo. My deacon mentors told me, and rightly so, I needed to speak up because people who were not sitting directly under a speaker could not hear what was being proclaimed. This experience came to mind while reading today’s Gospel, which starts with, “Jesus spoke to the crowds about the Kingdom of God…” A few verses later we hear the crowd numbered about five thousand men. If you factor in family members, we could be looking at ten thousand or more people, listening to Jesus… without the benefit of an elaborate sounds system! THAT is some big-time projecting!

All kidding aside, as I picture that scene in my mind, I ask myself, “How could such a large crowd hear Jesus?” For perspective, St. Thomas More holds what, seven to eight hundred people? Jesus was speaking to five thousand to ten thousand people – out in the open!

Maybe the terrain acted as sort of a funnel that directed Jesus’ voice. Maybe those closest to Jesus who could hear him turned to those behind them to pass the word along. No matter what, at the very least, a crowd that large would have to be quiet to hear Jesus’ words. It remains the same today for you and me. We too hear Jesus in the quiet.

When we pray, do we include some quiet time, just to listen, to give God the opportunity to speak to us?

Next week before Mass, consider spending a few minutes sitting in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Picture yourself among the crowd of five thousand or more, quietly listening to Jesus teaching. You might be surprised what he says to you.

In the peace of Christ,
Mike
Readings for the Week of June 23, 2019

**Sunday**
The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Gn 14:18-20; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Lk 9:11b-17
Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-2, 3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

**Monday**
The Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist
Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

**Tuesday**
Gn 15:1-12; 17-18; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 7:15-20

**Wednesday**
The Solemnity of Saint John the Baptist
Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

**Thursday**
Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or Gn 16:6b-12, 15-16; Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 7:21-29

**Friday**
The Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Ez 34:11-16; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Rom 5:5b-11; Lk 15:3-7
Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

**Saturday**
The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

**THIS WEEK’S EUCHARIST INTENTIONS**

**Pray for the Sick**
Rosanne Bishop
Emily Calkins
Chris Crocker
Sharon Harte
Jeff Jeziorski

**Pray for the Deceased**
† Anna Bankowska
† Brian Bonner
† Mary Ann DeWitt—sister of Patrick Feeney
† Norman Gawronski
† Tracy Rogers
† Richard Wietnik

“Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them”
MINISTERS FOR MASS—THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—JUNE 29 & 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS TIME</th>
<th>4:30 PM Saturday</th>
<th>7:30 AM Sunday</th>
<th>9:30 AM Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>CELEBRANT</td>
<td>Msgr. Tom Rice</td>
<td>Fr. Joseph Grimaldi</td>
<td>Fr. Bob Spezia</td>
<td>Fr. Bob Spezia</td>
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<td>Michael Stach</td>
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<td>Mike Van Dyke, Intern</td>
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<td>COMMENTATOR</td>
<td>Emma Kotwick</td>
<td>Joan Reddy</td>
<td>Dan Parente</td>
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<td>LECTOR</td>
<td>Phil Kotwick</td>
<td>Joe Widina</td>
<td>Barb Lepri</td>
<td>Chris Mann</td>
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<td>SERVERS</td>
<td>Jake Foley</td>
<td>Randy Skala</td>
<td>Anna Schultz</td>
<td>Reagan Feld</td>
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<td>Samantha Foley</td>
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<td>Keara Schultz</td>
<td>Veronica Kuzdowick</td>
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<td>Hudson Mclaine</td>
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<td>Noah Tanguay</td>
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<td>USHERS</td>
<td>Carol Glowacki</td>
<td>John Gielniak</td>
<td>Norm Cicone</td>
<td>Zach Azzam</td>
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<td>Dan Hayden</td>
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<td>Tom Hemak</td>
<td>Gerry Gostomski</td>
<td>Marv Olane</td>
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<td>Cary Sheremet</td>
<td>Mike Morrison</td>
<td>George Halter</td>
<td>Mark Parent</td>
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<td>Ernesto Tuazon</td>
<td>Frank Sikorski</td>
<td>Andy Olson</td>
<td>Richard Schmitz</td>
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<td>Ron Wlosinski</td>
<td>Jim Ward</td>
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<td>MEAS COORD.</td>
<td>Carol Glowacki</td>
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<td>Melinda Prucha</td>
<td>Tom Calnen</td>
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<tr>
<td>RECEPTIONIST</td>
<td>Nancy Frawley</td>
<td>Francie Rose</td>
<td>Donna Halter</td>
<td>Lynn Eschrich</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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WORSHIP

Questions about Funerals

1. **Who can be buried from the Church?**

Any baptized Catholic can be buried from the Church - those who have been most faithful in the practice and those who have been less faithful or separated from the Church, through illness, distance or special circumstances. Non-Catholic members of a parishioner’s family may be buried from the Church unless it was contrary to their wishes and will during their life. Catechumens who are in the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation are also to be buried from the Church. Children are honored with Christian burial if the parents intended for the child to be baptized but the child died prior to baptism. Unless there was some indication of repentance prior to their death, funerals would only be denied to apostates, heretics and schismatics, and those who are such notorious sinners that providing the funeral rites would cause scandal.

2. **Can those who have died as a result of suicide be buried from the Church?**

Yes, previous laws forbidding such have been changed. There are prayers included in the Order of Christian Funerals (OCF) for this circumstance.

3. **May someone who has not been able to attend Church for a few years because of their living in a nursing home still be buried from a parish church?**

Yes. Absence from their parish due to such circumstances does not separate them from the community of the Church and a Funeral Liturgy.

(Source: Directives for Catholic Funeral: Questions & Answers – aod.org)

Corpus Christi, June 23

"Eat my flesh, [Jesus] says, and drink my blood.' The Lord supplies us with these intimate nutrients, he delivers over his flesh and pours out his blood, and nothing is lacking for the growth of his children.' - *St. Clement of Alexandria*
What’s Happening in Our Parish

The Week Ahead
Weekday Masses
- Tuesday, June 25
  Theology of the Body, 7p
- Friday, June 28
  Euchre, 7p
- Sunday, June 30
  Coffee and Conversation after all Masses

The Parish Offices will be closing at 12:00pm on Wednesday, June 26th. Offices will reopen at 9:00am on Thursday, June 27th.

Love to Play Euchre?? Love to Win Money??
Join us on Friday, June 28 at 7:00pm in Room 2 to play Euchre with your fellow parishioners
RSVP to stmhospitality@gmail.com
$5.00 to play
BEGINNERS WELCOME!!

The First of the Month Collection
St. Vincent de Paul—July 6 & 7
We are asking for specially needed items. Some suggestions include—Kleenex, toilet paper, paper towel, cleaning supplies, bath soap, deodorant, dish soap, laundry detergent, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. These items are not covered in the Bridge Card programs that many of the needy have to purchase
Thank you for your generosity!

Grieving with Great Hope
Wednesday evenings, 6:30PM - 8PM
JULY 17 through AUGUST 21
“The greatest loss we can experience in life is the death of a loved. And grief is a natural, necessary response to death.
Next month, we will begin a new six week grief support group here at St. Thomas More. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one through death, you are invited to register on our parish website at www.stthomasmoretroy.org or by completing the form on the Information Counter in the Gathering Area.
Join others from our faith community and learn how to grieve with great hope.

Calling All Women!
Ladies’ Night Out is around the corner.....
Wednesday, July 24
6:30 – 8:30 P.M.
Ladies Night Out
Watch for more information on the Faith Formation page
ST. THOMAS MORE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 5-9th 9:00 A.M. to Noon
For children entering Kindergarten to 5th grade
Cost is $40.00/child
Register Early  Space is limited
Registration Deadline: July 29, 2019
No Walk-Ins or Late Registrations Accepted
For more information email stmbiblecamp@gmail.com or call the Faith Formation Office at 248-647-4680
Registration forms are available on the VBS Banner located in the gathering space, in the Faith Formation Office or on the St. Thomas More webpage. Also completed forms may be sent in, dropped off at the Faith Formation office, or given to the Sunday Receptionist.

Student Volunteers 9th—12th grade are required to attend the Called to Serve Workshop. Adult Volunteers must have taken the Protecting God’s Children Workshop. For more information go to https://www.aod.org/our-archdiocese/protecting-children/.

Becoming Catholic
Do you know someone not baptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, who is thirsting for what it means to become Catholic? Do you know someone already Catholic but has not yet received Confirmation and/or Communion? They may be thirsting too! The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a place to ask questions and seek understanding. Weekly “no obligation” inquiry gatherings are available. Call Josylin Mateus for more information at 248-647-4680 or email at josylin@stmoffice.com.

Theology of the Body
Would you like to get some insight as to why the Catholic Church teaches what it does regarding marriage between a man and a woman, abortion, contraception, divorce, pornography, and other “hot-topics” of our day? Come join me as we break open the wonderful teaching of St. John Paul II on the Theology of the Body. We will meet on Tuesdays beginning June 25 at 7:00 pm in Room 1. Cost for material is ~$15. Contact info josylin@stmoffice.com or 248-647-4680 to register.
Will meet on the following days: June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, August 13, 20 and 27. Don’t worry if you will miss a day or two due to vacation.

“The body reveals the person. This phrase tells us all there is to know about the body. Science can examine our flesh in minute detail, down to our cells and even our DNA. But no amount of scientific exploration can replace the truth that our bodies reveal us, giving form to our innermost being and unique personality. Our bodies are sacramental—they make the invisible visible.” — Pope John Paul II
A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped at the BLOOD DRIVE

THANK YOU so much to the donors and volunteers at the STM/American Red Cross Blood Drive on June 12. We collected 31 pints of blood. Each pint helps save 3 lives.

A special thank you to Marilyn Waldron, Martha Whiting, Joy Callaway, and Mary Ellen Schotthoefer who helped out greatly with registration and snacks.

Thank you also to those who donated cookies and fruit.

The blood drive went very well; there was very little waiting. We had a very positive event!

And again, thank you to all donors!!

Chris Reynaert, STM Blood Drive Coordinator

GERANIUM PLANTING

Thanks so much to Carol Glowacki and Martha Whiting for planting the geraniums from Pentecost Sunday. They have added color to the parish grounds.

And, thank you to all the parishioners who donated the flowers to accent the Masses on Pentecost and beautify the grounds.

Lois Sokolowski
Business Manager

If you are involved in worship ministry as an Altar Server, Cantor, EMHC, Mass Coordinator, Reader, Receptionist or Usher then you may be aware of Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP), the software we have been using since Fall 2017 to schedule individuals for positions at weekend and holy day masses. This online system can be accessed through a web browser or on your smart phone or tablet (just download the app) and allows you to indicate in advance of scheduling your preferences for mass times and when you’ll be unavailable to serve. Once the schedule is published, it also easily allows you to request a sub for those last minute changes to your availability and to fill in for others when needed.

If you serve in a Worship Ministry and have never logged in to MSP, try it out. If you need your login information send an email to evangelization@stmoffice.com to make sure we have your correct email in the system. If you’re not a minister but want to see who is scheduled, you can always access the system from our parish website (stthomasmoretroy.org/schedules).

Be in the know, use MSPro!

CSA 2019 UPDATE

Goal—$200,000
Pledges - $144,308
Over (Under) Target—($55,692)
32% Response with 481 Contributors

Thank you to all who have made a pledge or donation. If you have not yet made your pledge, please drop off your CSA card in the Parish Office, in the offertory basket, or return it in the envelope provided. If we don’t make our target of $200,000, the shortage will come out of our working budget.

Thank you for your support!
June 22-29 - Strength in Hope
by John Hannigan

Beginning June 22nd, the feast day of our patron, St. Thomas More, the U.S. Catholic Bishops declared a week of prayer, reflection and action on behalf of religious liberty in America and abroad. The bishops call us to attend to the challenges our First Liberty faces today, as well as challenges within the Church. “Religious freedom means that Catholics, and all people of goodwill, are free to seek the truth and to live in accordance with that truth…” That bears repeating: “to live in accordance with that truth.”

Our inalienable right to act on our faith is one of those truths we hold as a nation to be self-evident. It is guaranteed in the Bill of Rights: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” Yet we must be vigilant. Our government was formed to secure our rights, not grant them. Every individual has the right to exercise his or her religion, to live their faith. Some politicians say freedom of “worship” to limit religion to what we do inside a church, synagogue or mosque. Some in society argue for freedom from religion, seeking to separate religion from the public square. These would deny Americans their right.

Every true right carries responsibility. Ours is given to us by Jesus in His command to “Go make disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:19). Unleash the Gospel calls us to be joyful missionaries who, wherever we are, witness to Christ and the Father’s love and mercy. Being faithful witnesses can turn the culture back to God if we “live in accordance with that truth,” in public, whatever the challenges. The bishops wrote that living as Christian witnesses will “strengthen our common life as a nation.” Religious freedom allows us “to carry out the mission that Jesus has entrusted to the Church.” Let us follow St. Thomas More’s example and be good servants of our country, but always servants of God first. Let us “seek the kingdom and find Strength in Hope.”

Learn more: www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek

Stewardship Reflection
Don’t be caught dead....Plan Ahead

On June 1st after the Saturday mass, St. Thomas More and the SOV supported a valuable presentation about Pre-Planning your funeral and how you can include contributions to your parish in your financial plan. After a delicious meal of Chicken Fettuccini, salad and a variety of desserts the worthwhile presentation started. This was the second time STM has held a presentation on Pre Planning your final wishes.

The presentation started with a financial discussion from Mark Steinburg, UBS group, on how you can set up a charitable giving vehicle such as a Donor-advised fund or private foundations from your RMD when you turn 70 ½. This will avoid taxes and allow you to donate to your selected charities directly.

A discussion from a fellow parishioner, Daniel Shirey, attorney with Kitch Attorneys & Counselors, provided a discussion on legal documentation that is critical for everyone’s estate planning including wills, trusts, healthcare power of attorney, general durable power of attorney, & long-term care. Discussion also included adding your charitable giving as part of your legal documents will ensure your final requests are achieved.

Then was probably the most interesting discussion that was new to most of us. Deacon Michael provided details on what constitutes a Catholic funeral. He eloquently linked Jesus’s death into how and why we have the Catholic funeral rituals. There are three required parts, 1) Vigil for the deceased, 2) Funeral Liturgy and finally 3) Rite of Committal. All three parts are required for a Catholic funeral. He also discussed the recommendation on how cremation should be accomplished within the Church’s teaching.

The final presentation was from representatives from Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Lynch Funeral Home, and Desmond Funeral home. They all suggested and provided reasoning to preplan your burial and visitation requests.

Although this is a somber topic, it was valuable and needed as we are an aging population. This was the second time that STM has put on this presentation. For those who attended, all left with knowledge to help them make sound decisions and prepare their families for their desires. Lois and I have discussed doing this presentation again next year. For those who did not attend, highly consider next time!

If anyone would like additional information or the presenters contact information, please contact the parish office at 248-647-2222, or email lois@stmoffice.com.

Diane Claeyis, Stewardship Commission claeysdl@aol.com.
ONLINE GIVING

Summertime brings family vacations, traveling, and an increase in outside activities. Mention the word “summer,” and most people begin to imagine the pool, barbecues, and anything but the “normal” routine. This is great for people looking to get out of the daily grind, but not so great for parishes that rely so much on consistent contributions. Before you leave for vacation, will you make the commitment to give to our parish through online giving?

When you choose to give your gifts online, it positively impacts the stability of our parish ministries and outreach programs by allowing us to better plan for the year. By knowing what level of commitment our members have made, we know how best to allocate our resources. At St. Thomas More Church, we are committed to using our gifts to the best of our ability.

Our online giving site allows you to set up a recurring weekly or monthly donation to our parish. It’s easy to set up once and not think about it again.

For more information, see STM website at www.stthomasmoretroy.org. If you have any questions about our WeShare online giving program or about setting up your account, please don’t hesitate to call the parish office. We’re here to help!

Have a wonderful summer!
Lois Sokolowski
Business Manager

SVdP Help Needed

St. Thomas More, St. Vincent dePaul is looking for a person who has some financial background to help the conference. There is an opening for a volunteer position as treasurer.

If you can help, please contact Carol Dunleavy, President of the SVdP Conference caroldunleavy@aol.com or 248-641-5185. Thank you!

STM BULLETIN

Due to an early bulletin deadline, Mass Intentions and names requested to be on our Prayer Lists that were received after Thursday, June 20th, will not be published in next week’s bulletin, June 30th.

The next CSA Update will be in the July 7th bulletin.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Terra Sancta Pilgrimages with Franciscan Friar, Fr. Alex Kratz will be leading a Catholic Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from December 2-16, 2019. This life-changing experience walking in Jesus’ footsteps includes daily Mass and Rosary, biblical readings on site, time for prayer and spiritual guidance, and meeting local Christians. Cost is $4,299 (all expenses included, round trip from Detroit, 3 daily meals, all tips and taxes). $500 deposit due at registration.

Orientation Meeting is August 25 at St. Joseph Chapel our headquarters (400 South Blvd. West, Pontiac, MI 48331). Next pilgrimage: April 20-May 4, 2020. Contact Fr. Alex at (313) 727-9784 or abunaalex@yahoo.com.

CYO CAMPS

Looking for a great camp along the shores of a great lake? The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) for the Archdiocese of Detroit offers a traditional summer camp opportunity for kids and families with an infusion of the Catholic faith right along the shores of Lake Huron. The CYO boys and girls camps start June 30 and run through August 3.

This summer’s theme is ‘Be His Light,’ and through programs and events campers will learn how to be a light in the world for Jesus Christ and how faith impacts their lives, their relationship with God, and each other.

For more information on the Catholic Youth Organization camps, including registration information, visit the CYO Camps website http://www.cyocamps.org.
St. Thomas More Parish Directory
4580 Adams Rd., Troy, MI  48098

PARISH OFFICES:  248-647-2222
FAX:  248-647-8192
FAITH FORMATION:  248-647-4680

Hours:  Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.  Closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:00 pm

inquiry@stmoffice.com
www.stthomasmoretroy.org

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday at 4:30 p.m.
Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 9:00 a.m. - Rosary before Mass
Holy Days: 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

PASTORAL STAFF
Monsignor Thomas G. Rice, Pastor
248-647-2222 x. 1111

Weekend Mass Assistance
Fr. Robert Spezia
Christopher Stark, Deacon
248-647-2222 x. 8888

WORSHIP and CHRISTIAN SERVICE
Deacon Michael Stach, Pastoral Associate
248-647-2222 x. 5555
dcnmichael@stmoffice.com

MUSIC MINISTRY
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