Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”

Luke 11:9
A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

WELCOME FATHER GILBERT

This weekend we welcome Fr. Gilbert Otieno Omolo, CP from the Passionist Missionaries of Kenya, Africa. Fr. Gilbert is speaking at all of the Masses in conjunction with the annual mission appeal. The Passionist Missionaries have done wonderful work in spreading the Gospel in Africa (200 million Catholics now in Africa). It is our privilege to assist them in their special ministry and I thank you in advance because the people of St. Thomas More have always been generous in their response to the missionaries who have visited us. God bless you for your kindness.

VACATION MONTHS

July and August are vacation times for a lot of people. Remember that when you are on vacation it is still important to worship with fellow Catholics on Sunday. If you need to know where the churches are located in the area of your vacation, then Google it and you will see the Catholic Church is everywhere!

When you visit these other parishes, be a kind guest and give them a donation. But please, when you return, be sure to “make up” for the Sunday envelopes you have missed when you were gone. Our regular expenses don’t take a vacation!

Have a wonderful faith-filled week. Thank God for these Summer days and please find a place for me in your prayers.

Msgr. Tom Rice

THE PASSIONIST MISSIONARY

The Passionist Missionaries goal is to promote the memory of the Passion of Jesus Christ by witnessing and preaching to the sufferings of our time. Through their projects in Kenya, they are able to evangelize and promote integral human development.

Their projects involve programs and activities for alleviating poverty and foster social justice and economic empowerment of the communities they serve. They have 40 seminarians, they run two orphanages with 70 orphans, and they support poor widows in their missions. They organize and preach retreats for both religious and lay Faithful. Your generous support continues their mission affecting a positive change in people’s daily lives and the hope for a better tomorrow.

If you find time, please visit our orphans, Seminarians, People, and Passionists at www.Passionistskenya.org.

CatholicMassTime.org provides easy access to Mass schedules, church locations, parish contact information and more.

CatholicMassTime.org provides easy access to Mass schedules, church locations, parish contact information and more.

CatholicMassTime.org provides easy access to Mass schedules, church locations, parish contact information and more.
The Nuns of the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament have initiated a 24 Hour Prayer Line. The Sisters are attentive to begin the requested prayers promptly.

You can reach the Prayer Line at 248-626-8253 or email opnunsfh@sbcglobal.net

THIS WEEK’S EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

**Saturday**
- 4:30p Eugene Cichanowicz, Birthday Remembrance
- Donna Krich—14th Anniversary
- John Mills—5th Anniversary
- Jerome Walczak—9th Anniversary

**Sunday**
- 7:30a Aurora Andaya
- Sr. Jean Rice—Special Intention
- 9:30a Mary Ann DeWitt
- The Mikulski Family—Special Intention
- 11:30a Lois Sokolowski—For Good Health
- Richard Suminski—6th Anniversary

**Tuesday**
- 9:00a Clare DeFauw—Birthday Remembrance

**Wednesday**
- 9:00a Mason Waggoner—Special Intention

**Thursday**
- August 1
- 9:00a Ralf Crookston—Special Intention

**Saturday**
- August 3
- 4:30p Martin Kniespeck

**Sunday**
- August 4
- 7:30a For the People of St. Thomas More
- 9:30a Ralf Crookston—Special Intention
- 11:30a William Rinehart

**THIS WEEK’S PRAYER INTENTIONS**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**
- Rosanne Bishop
- Chris Crocker
- Baby Jude Dulong
- Herbert Foos
- Hayley Hagedorn
- Sharon Harte
- Earl Knauss
- Joe Mack
- Julia Miesiak
- Carol Simmons
- Richard Suminski
- Diane Thomas
- Kathleen Vuylsteke
- Helen Walczak

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**

Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of:
- † Msgr. Ricardo Erwin Bass
- † Carol Mueller

“Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them.”

**We Welcome the New Members who have Joined Our Parish**
- Patricia Long
- Megan Penkevich
- Paul Touillon

**24 Hour Prayer Line**
The Nuns of the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament have initiated a 24 Hour Prayer Line. The Sisters are attentive to begin the requested prayers promptly.

You can reach the Prayer Line at 248-626-8253 or email opnunsfh@sbcglobal.net

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

We the Christian Community of St. Thomas More, in an atmosphere of hospitality, are dedicated to proclaiming the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through excellence in worship, education, and service to others.

We believe that the nurturing of the community around the Eucharistic Table is extended through gatherings which further strengthen and support us.

We shall pursue this mission faithfully through the power of the Holy Spirit and the gifts and talents of our members.
Questions about Funerals

Are priests the only ones who can lead the Scripture service or the Cemetery service?

Deacons, religious and lay ministers are also designated to preside at the Vigil (Scripture) service and the cemetery Rite of Committal. These are not services that are restricted to a priest. Many parishes have lay bereavement ministers assigned to these significant rites of the Christian funeral.

What do we do with the cremated remains after the funeral?

The cremated remains must always be treated with respect, the same respect we attribute to the body. After the funeral they are to be interred or entombed, preferably in a Catholic cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium. The Rite of Committal should accompany this action. They should never be separated or scattered or disposed in any way other than a dignified interment or entombment.

(Source: Directives for Catholic Funeral: Questions & Answers – aod.org)
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH

THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekday Masses
Tues, Wed, Thurs, 9a
Rosary before Mass

(Console, July 29
The MEN of STM, 7p

(Console, July 30
Contemporary Music Rehearsal, 6p
Theology of the Body, 7p

(Console, July 31
VBS Adult Volunteer Meeting, 10a
VBS Steen Volunteer Meeting, 7p

(Console, August 1
VBS Set Up

(Console, August 2
VBS Set Up

(Console, August 4
Coffee and Conversation after all Masses
Baptism, 12:30p

Snack Donations Needed for Vacation Bible School
Snack donations are needed for our campers during the week of August 5-9. Please see page 6, Faith Formation.

ST. THOMAS MORE VACATION BIBLE CAMP
Once again, we will be collecting new school supplies during Bible Camp to donate to Morse Elementary School in Troy. Items needed are:

Pocket Folders—Pens—Paper—Markers—Pencils—Composition Books—Crayons—Rulers—Boxes of Tissues…. And, especially, backpacks

Please help by dropping off supplies in the Social Hall from August 1 to August 11.

THANK YOU!!

First of the Month Collection August 3 & 4
Thank you for your generosity and support in helping those in need!

FIRST TUESDAY COFFEE
Due to VBS the first week of August, the First Tuesday Coffee will be on August 13th
Join us in the Social Hall following the 9:00am Mass for coffee, treats, and conversation with your fellow parishioners.

The STM Book Club selection for August is The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict. This novel fills out the story of Albert Einstein's wife, Mileva, a physicist is her own right, who may have collaborated in formulating the theory of special relativity.

Please join us Tuesday, 8/20 at 10 AM in Room 2 for the discussion.

SAVE THE DATE
Deacon Chris Stark’s Farewell Reception
August 25th after the 9:30 a.m. Mass in the Social Hall
Please stop in and wish him well!
Catholicism 101!

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, or just want to know more about the Catholic faith? Extend an invitation to attend our “no obligation” inquiry gatherings beginning August 13, and consider accompanying them on their journey of faith. This is a great place to enter into the shallow end and get their/your feet wet. Call Josylin Mateus for more information at 248-647-4680 or email at josylin@stmoffice.com.

St. Thomas More Upcoming Faith Formation Event
Discovering Christ on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. Gatherings scheduled August 13-September 17. Please see page 2 for more information.

Snack Donations Needed for Vacation Bible School

Snack donations are needed for our campers during the week of August 5—9. Please sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084faba72ca6fa7-vbssnack1 or call the Faith Formation Office to sign up so we don’t have extras of each item.

Items Needed
- 4 BOXES OF RICE CHEX
- 6 CANS CRUSHED PINEAPPLE
- 4 BIG BAGS OF POPCORN
- 4 BAGS OF PRETZELS
- 6 CANS MANDARIN ORANGES
- 4 BIG BOXES OF GOLDFISH CRACKERS
- 6 BOXES OF GRAHAM CRACKERS
- 4 BIG BOXES OF ANIMAL CRACKERS
- ICE CREAM CONES
- BROWNIE BITES
- SANDWICH BAGS

Items are due by Monday, July 29. Thank you in advance!
SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Just a reminder that the Parish Offices are closed on Friday’s through the summer months. Office hours are 9:00 am-5:00 pm Monday through Thursday, closed for lunch 12:30-1:00 pm.

Regular office hours will resume the first week of September.

St. Hugo Viking Football – Fall 2019 Season

The road to FORD FIELD is paved in VIKING BLUE... RETURNING CYO CHAMPIONS!!!

WELCOME to ALL 4th – 8th graders who are considering playing football...

WE WANT YOUR BOYS TO JOIN THE VIKINGS!!!

Don’t worry if your son has not played tackle football before... we emphasize and teach sound fundamentals, to ensure our kids are well prepared for safe competition.

FALL REGISTRATION OPEN THROUGH AUGUST 5TH:
https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/200781

1. Pre-Season conditioning – FREE optional workouts to get players in shape & ready for the season Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30 – 5:45 @ St Hugo Field
2. Regular season 1st practice – August 5th
3. 4-Way Scrimmage - Sat., Aug.17th (Teams – TBD)
1st Game – Sat. Aug. 24th (TBD)

We look forward to having your child be a part of St Hugo football!!! If you have any questions, please contact:

   Director of Football / Varsity Head Coach
   Bryan Sharp (586) 337-3133
   bmsharp@sbcglobal.net

   Athletic Director
   Bob Brzustewicz (248) 930-1767
   bob.brzustewicz@stthomasschool.org

CSA 2019 UPDATE

Goal—$200,000
Pledges - $168,528
Over (Under) Target—($31,472)
39% Response with 586 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!

Furniture Available

The parish has a desk and credenza that are no longer useful in the offices. If you can use either or both of these pieces of furniture, please contact Lois Sokolowski in the parish office. A free will offering would be appreciated for the furniture.

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL
Read it and learn more today!
www.unleashtegospel.org
or the “Unleash the Gospel” tab on the STM website:
www.stthomasmoretroy.org
**EVANGELIZATION**

*UNLEASH THE GOSPEL*

**The Mass: Then and Now, Here and There**

by John Hannigan

I was home in Holyoke, Massachusetts recently and went to Mass at the parish where I first received Communion and was Confirmed. I had substantially mixed feelings, but there was a clear affirmation.

We love visiting my mother, sisters and very many cousins, nieces and nephews. Back in the day, most of our “clan” belonged to the same parish, right across the street from the apartment block where my mother was born. We went to the parish school. The boys learned Latin to serve at Mass. It was a beautiful church, the focus of our lives, and what we’d now call a “large vibrant faith community.”

Today, much is changed there. The school and the convent are gone; the rectory is a “half-way” house; the doors to the church are locked ... on Sunday. We joined the few people gathered for Mass in the stark gym with bare brick walls, exposed steel girders, folding chairs, and stiflingly heat. But I reflect not nostalgically on a lamented past, but on hope for the Church today and in He who is present in every Mass, despite differences among parishes.

In my travels this year, besides Holyoke, I went to Mass in Minneapolis and in Rome. Of course, there were important differences in scale and beauty, but every Mass is the same in substance, whether celebrated by Pope Francis for 20,000 at St. Peter’s with the Sistine Chapel choir, or by a bishop for 200 at the Minneapolis cathedral, or by a young harried priest for 20 in that old gym. All those worshippers were united across time and space with each other and with the saints in heaven. At every Mass, Jesus is proclaimed into our hearts, the Spirit descends to make holy the bread and wine, Jesus becomes present in Body and Blood, and the people are blessed.

The contrasts among the Masses helped me focus on how much power and consolation of Graces are offered in the beautiful supernatural reality of every Mass. This is the affirmation. The Mass is to be shared widely. Our love for others should compel us to welcome them here at STM to join in worship. We can respond to the call to Unleash the Gospel by inviting people to visit for the first time, to return, to appreciate the Catholic faith anew, to be blessed. Let us reach out in new ways to draw our family and neighbors into communion and knowledge of Jesus. Let us enlarge our vibrant faith community.

Contact me at unleashSTM@gmail.com to comment or to learn more about Evangelization at STM.

---

**STEWARDSHIP**

*TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE*

**Stewardship Reflection**

*Love and the Holy Spirit*

My Mother was a patient at Lourdes Senior Center during her final years of life. I would visit her daily to help her with lunch and show her I cared and loved her. The nurses and staff were so kind and always provided the best care. The special thing about this nursing facility was that it is Catholic based and the patients who were Catholic, were able to receive communion daily. Every time I left, I felt renewed and knew the Holy Spirit was working something within me.

Three years later, I retired, and Lourdes was a place that I wanted to give back to and volunteer at. When I contacted the Dominican Sister of Peace who is in charge, she mentioned that they needed someone to distribute communion to those patients unable to attend mass. I discussed this with Deacon Michael because I was very nervous and was not an Extraordinary Eucharist Minister. He gave me two pamphlets to read to learn about the mission and the religious foundation of serving the sick.

Last Monday was an amazing experience. After I helped transport some patients to the chapel for mass, I took part in the mass with the patients in their serene chapel overlooking Watkins Lake. After mass we transport the patients back to their rooms. Those that did not attend mass are the people I serve. I feel very special being able to share this gift with the elderly patients. After they receive the Lord, they all thank me and you can see in their eyes they are filled with the Spirit.

There were two residents who were very special this week. One man, Roger who is 94 years of age, asked me after he received communion if he could say a prayer for me. He proceeded to recite a prayer he wrote when he was 19 that he continues to pray today, but in this instance, he inserted my name into the personal prayer. This so moved me it brought me to tears. Then another resident again wanted to say a prayer for me specifically. I am there to serve them, but they ended up serving me.

Deacon Michael is looking to expand our ministry of taking communion to those who are home bound and at local senior centers. For sure I’m going to help him on this volunteer opportunity! If you are so moved to help, contact Deacon Michael. The Holy Spirit works in many ways to show love. Serving the elderly is a way you can help show love too and be blessed by the Holy Spirit.

Diane Claeys, Stewardship Commission
claeysdl@aol.com
**COMMUNITY INTEREST**

**BLESSED SOLANUS CASEY FEAST DAY**  
**JULY 30, 2019**

Blessed Solanus Casey, Detroit’s beloved Capuchin priest on the road to sainthood in the Catholic Church, will be remembered at the Solanus Casey Center

- 7:45am Mass
- 12:00 noon Mass with litany and prayer for the Feast of Blessed Solanus Casey
- 7:00pm Mass with litany and prayer for the Feast of Blessed Solanus Casey, with special invited celebrant, Cardinal Seán O’Malley, Capuchin, Archbishop of Boston

Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mt. Elliott Street  
Detroit, MI 48207

**Detroit Catholic Young Adult**  
**Summer in Detroit Series**

Young adults are invited to downtown Detroit for a four-week series inspired by beauty, goodness and truth. Each weekly event will focus on one facet of our Catholic faith and offer time for formation and fellowship. Visit facebook.com/groups/aodyoungadult/ for more information.

**Adoration**  
**Tuesday, July 30 | 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | St. Aloysius | 1234 Washington Boulevard**

Father Mario Amore will lead an evening of prayer, beautiful music and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Prayer teams will be available for anyone wishing to receive God’s healing graces and priests will be available for confession. A relic of Blessed Solanus Casey will be available for veneration.

**Summer Music Benefit Concert**

On Saturday, Aug. 3 at 7 PM in the Parish Hall at Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church in Sterling Heights, there will be a Music Benefit Concert for the African Missions featuring Stephanie Weil, mezzo-soprano & Aaron Marshall, guitarist. Both performers will feature solo Baroque, Classical, & Romantic works. Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church is located just north of Eighteen Mile Rd. at 41233 Ryan Rd. Suggested minimum admission fee: $5 per individual, $10 per family.

For more information, please call 248-250-6005 or visit www.livemusicperformances.com

**NEW DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT**

**YOUTH MINISTRY ORIENTATION**

New — or newer — youth ministers interested in receiving more information about youth ministry resources and programming will gather for a Youth Ministry Orientation at Sacred Heart Major Seminary on Saturday, August 17.

The Youth Ministry Office will provide an overview of its suggested materials for evangelizing and accompanying teens, tips for starting youth ministry programming, and a summary of essential youth ministry documents.

Your CSA gifts help fund the work of the Youth Ministry Office, allowing it to offer events like these at a very low cost to parishes. The Youth Ministry Orientation is $20 and includes breakfast and lunch for attendees. Registration is required by August 9.

For information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to aod.org.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**  
**A Weekend of Discovery .....A Lifetime of Love!!**

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** is the largest pro-marriage organization in the world and promotes Weekend experiences for couples who want to make their good marriage even better.

**2019 Weekend Dates**

August 16-18 — Petoskey, MI  
September 27-29 — Troy, MI  
November 15-17 — Adrian, MI

For information call 888-322-9963 or encounterdetroit.org
### 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
- **Brian Foos**, Director  
  248-647-2222 x. 4444  
  bjfoos@gmail.com

### PARISH OFFICE
- **Lois Sokolowski**, Business Manager  
  248-647-2222 x. 7777  
  lois@stmoffice.com

- **Kathy Strong**, Parish Secretary/Bulletin  
  248-647-2222 x. 3311  
  kathy@stmoffice.com

### FAITH FORMATION
- **Josylin Mateus**, Director  
  248-647-4680  
  josylin@stmoffice.com

- **Angela Seba**, Secretary  
  248-647-4680  
  angela@stmoffice.com

- **Sandi Gardner**, Section Head  
  248-647-4680  
  sandi@stmoffice.com

### SOCIAL MEDIA
- **Debbie Knauss**, Website and Facebook  
  stmwebsite@stmoffice.com

### MAINTENANCE
- **Ben Olar**, Pete Whiting  
  248-647-2222 x. 4422

---

**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.**