



# More News

The Seasonal Newsletter of  
St. Thomas More Catholic Parish  
Scranton, Pennsylvania

## Michaelmas Term 2021



[In this edition the Pastor's Letter is provided separately; please click here.](#)

## Worship

### 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinariate Mass in NYC

[The New Liturgical Movement reports:](#)

"[On Friday, September 24], the Durandus Institute for Sacred Liturgy and Music organized the first-ever Mass celebrated in New York City according to the Divine Worship Missal of the Ordinariates. An assortment of Ordinariate, Dominican, and diocesan clergy,



and about 250 of the faithful, came to the church of Saint Vincent Ferrer in Manhattan to attend this historic celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, enhanced by a special program of sacred music. (The complete program can be seen [here](#).) We are happy to share a video of the complete ceremony [here](#), and pictures by Mr Arrys Ortañez."

### St. John Henry Newman Mass in Philadelphia

As we go to press, Bishop Steven Lopes is due to celebrate Solemn Pontifical Mass according to the Ordinariate Use in celebration



of St. John Henry Newman at the Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul, Philadelphia on **Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.** The homily will be preached by the Most Rev. Nelson J. Pérez, Archbishop of Philadelphia.

### First Friday / First Saturday

Upcoming First Friday / First Saturday devotions will be offered on **November 5-6 & December 3-4.** Exposition of the Sacrament and **Solemn Evensong** with our Maria Kaupas Academy Upper School Choir will be at **4:30**



**p.m. on Friday**, with 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration continuing until that same hour on Saturday. Mass is offered Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Please call Kathleen O'Donnell at 570-947-7027 if you can serve as an adorer, as some time slots are still available.

### All Saints / All Souls Masses

Normally a Holy Day of Obligation, this year **All Saints Day (November 1)** falls on a Monday, in which case the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops does not mandate a day of obligation immediately



subsequent to a Sunday. Nevertheless, the day's typical obligatory status speaks to its importance in the Church, so all are warmly encouraged to join us for **said Mass** on Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> at **7:00 a.m.** or **11:00 a.m.**, or **Solemn Mass** that evening at **5:30 p.m.**

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed – **All Souls' Day** – follows the next day, **November 2.** **Said Mass** will be at **7:00 a.m.**, and we've added a **Sung Mass** that day at **11:00 a.m.**

### Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 7

A reminder that clocks "fall back" on Sunday morning, November 7... don't forget to reset your clocks the previous night, or you



may be an hour early for Sunday School or Mass that morning!

### Thanksgiving Vigil Mass

In keeping with Parish tradition, Vigil Mass for Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated at our normal **5:30 p.m.** Wednesday Mass



time on **November 24.** Come partake in the superlative act of giving thanks – the Holy Eucharist – in anticipation of your family observances the next day!

# Discipleship

## Stewardship 2021

With the season of harvest approaching, our annual stewardship campaign is underway. Many members and friends will receive the annual stewardship mailing in the coming days, or enclosed with this newsletter. Please take time to prayerfully consider those materials, and discern a pledge for the coming year. Pledge slips may either be mailed back to the Parish Office, or placed in the offering basket on **Stewardship Sunday, November 7.**



The Parish has seen significant growth in past months. We are deeply thankful that our new households are giving generously to support their new Parish home; at the same time, our burgeoning numbers also increase the financial demands on buildings, ministries, utilities, and staffing; so the support of all of us is still needed, more than ever. New members, we warmly invite you to engage wholeheartedly with our stewardship campaign; and long-time members, we encourage you to maintain or even increase your sacrificial giving, without which our ministry here could never have been possible. Together, let us all “walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.”

-Ephesians 5:2

## Wednesday Adult Program

A few years ago, the parish ceased its long-running Wednesday evening Adult Education program – offered periodically throughout the year in topical series of 6 weeks or so – in favor of Sunday morning sessions after Mass offered only during Advent and Lent. Since then, there has been a lamentable paucity in adult Catholic formation at the Parish, but little that could be done, given scarce staffing and resources.



Thankfully, **Peggy Olivieri** – former Director of Religious Education to two other area parishes – has since joined the Parish, and has volunteered to help close the gap offering Wednesday evening classes once again. Like our prior program, these will be short spans of

5-8 weeks as announced, dovetailing with our Advent and Lent programs, which will continue on Sundays during those seasons. In other aspects, the program will differ from our prior pattern. Classes will meet 6:30-8:00 p.m. in a second floor Convent classroom, and will not be preceded by potluck supper. Participants should bring a Bible, a Catechism, and (if able) will pay the nominal cost of a student workbook. Most curricula will be video-based.

First up is a 5-week series on **The Eucharist** beginning **Wednesday, October 13.** Walk-ins are welcome, but signing up is preferred; please do so on the clipboard at the back of the church.

## Academy Fundraisers

In order to keep a first-rate classical Catholic education as affordable as possible to our families, there is a substantial deficit between tuition fees and actual costs, which must be made up by fundraising. Three such efforts are getting underway:



- Students will be selling **calendars** for \$5 each for a chance to win one of **two \$25 gift cards every day.** Drawings will be on every school day between October 25<sup>th</sup> & November 19<sup>th</sup>. Students will be selling calendars for two weeks beginning October 8; please watch for opportunities to purchase one or more!

- Second, students are selling **Gertrude Hawk chocolate bars** for \$1.50 each. Watch for opportunities to patronize our students here at church, or at Coffee Hour after Mass.

- Finally, on **October 24** after 10:00 a.m. Mass, parishioner and Academy parent Jerry Bauman will have his Divine Mercy **Food Truck** with free hot dogs and hamburgers. Free will donations to help Maria Kaupas Academy will be accepted.

Please join us in supporting our Academy families by participating in these efforts!

## Bp. Lopes Keynote Speaker at National Catholic Prayer Breakfast

As we announced in our prior newsletter, Bishop Steven Lopes was the keynote speaker at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast in



Washington, D.C. on September 14, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Carried live on EWTN, online readers can now view a video of Bishop Lopes' keynote address on YouTube, [here.](#)

## Parishioner Larry Chapp Appears with Bishop Barron

St. Thomas More Parish is blessed to count among her members several teachers of university-level theology, including **Larry Chapp.** Dr. Chapp's blog [Gaudium et Spes 22](#) – which contends for robust Catholic orthodoxy, while firmly eschewing a radical traditionalism that would seek to discredit the Second Vatican Council – has been gaining considerable interest in recent months including by Bishop Robert Barron. (Bishop Barron, Auxiliary Bishop of Los



Angeles, is widely known among both the Catholic and non-Catholic worlds, thanks to his superb films and teaching series produced by his [Word On Fire](#) ministry.) Dr. Chapp and Bishop Barron had worked together on a book some years ago, and the recent takeoff of Larry's blog was the occasion for a rekindling of the acquaintance. Their wide-ranging conversation can be viewed [here](#) on YouTube.

## Advent Adult Education

As previously mentioned, the reintroduction of a Wednesday evening Adult Education series will by no means displace the Advent and Lent series we have been running for several years now. After 10:00 a.m. Mass on the four



Sundays of Advent – **November 28, and December 5, 12, & 19** – join us for potluck lunch and a lively Catholic Adult Education series. Stay tuned to our weekly announcements for the topic as the series nears!

# Fellowship

## Youth Group

Youth Group outings for ages 12 and up will continue apace throughout the season, on the **fourth Sunday of each month** after 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Following their first outing (go-kart racing at Lahey Family Fun Park), the group reconvened in the Parish Hall



to brainstorm outing ideas for the remainder of the season. Stay tuned for announcements of each activity!

## Anniversary Potluck & All Saints Costume Party

Each year, the Parish commemorates the homecoming of its original members to the Catholic Church – their Confirmation on All Saints Eve, 2005 – with a parish-wide potluck lunch and All Saints costume party after Mass on the nearest Sunday. This year, the anniversary falls on a Sunday itself: October 31. Please join us in this annual commemoration



of our congregation's founding; the young (and young of heart) are encouraged to dress as their favorite saints, keeping each other guessing as to their identity based upon clues in their costumes.

# Outreach

## Neighbor Nights

Stymied for safety's sake in September by an outbreak of respiratory illnesses in the Parish, our first Neighbor Night of the season will be offered on **Saturday, October 16 at 6:00 p.m.** All in the Parish, the Neighborhood, and invited friends and guests are welcome



for an evening of free supper, pool, ping-pong, board games, wi-fi, conversation, and a movie on the "big screen" each third Saturday of the month.

## Generous Gift Results in Great PR for the Parish

Each month, the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader awards a \$1,000 prize to a random subscriber, and a matching \$1,000 donation to the local nonprofit of the winner's choice. To their great surprise, parishioners **Don and Judy Sanderson** recently won the drawing, and kindly designated our **Building Fund** (whereby we are retiring the debt incurred for

## TIMES LEADER

**\$1,000 nonprofit recipient: St. Thomas More Catholic Parish**



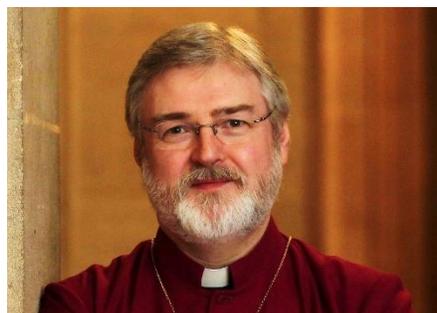
the renovation of our buildings in 2012) as the recipient of the matching gift. The occasion produced a writeup in the Times-Leader that provided excellent information about St. Thomas More Parish to thousands of readers in our area. The article can be read [here](#). Thank you, Don and Judy, for your generosity!

# Evangelization

## Anglican Bishop in England Quits to Become Catholic

The National Catholic Register [reports](#): "A Church of England bishop said on Friday that he was stepping down to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. The Rt. Rev. Jonathan Goodall, the Anglican bishop of Ebbsfleet, explained, 'I have arrived at the decision to step down as Bishop of Ebbsfleet, in order to be received into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church, only after a long period of prayer, which has been among the most testing periods of my life.' "

"The 60-year-old bishop has served as bishop of Ebbsfleet since 2013, a role in which he acted as a provincial episcopal visitor, or 'flying bishop,' supporting Church of England congregations that do not recognize women priests and bishops. He was chaplain and ecumenical secretary to the Archbishop of



Canterbury, Rowan Williams, from 2005 to 2012. He has strong ties to Westminster Abbey, London's royal church. He was a minor canon, chaplain, and sacrist from 1992 to 1998. From 2004 onwards, he has been a Priest Vicar of Westminster Abbey.

"Goodall is the second bishop of Ebbsfleet to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. In 2010, the Rt. Rev. Andrew Burnham stepped down after 10 years in the post. He

was received into the Catholic Church in 2011 and then ordained a Catholic priest, serving in the newly established Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. Today, Monsignor Burnham is pastor of Hendred Catholic Parish in Oxfordshire, south-central England.

"Alongside Monsignor Burnham, two other Church of England bishops were also received into the Catholic Church: the Rt. Rev. Keith Newton, bishop of Richborough, and the Rt. Rev. John Broadhurst, the bishop of Fulham.

"In 2019, Gavin Ashenden, a former Honorary Chaplain to the Queen in the Church of England who was consecrated as a bishop in a Continuing Anglican ecclesial community, was also received.

"The Rt. Rev. Graham Leonard, bishop of London from 1981 to 1991, became the most senior Church of England cleric to become a Catholic since the Reformation when he entered into full communion in 1993."

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