

There is a good indicator that your prayer is “working.” The indicator is this: You begin to notice more the presence of God in the world around you and in the routine of your day.

Excerpt from “The Little Black Book”



Mission Statement : The Roman Catholic Saint Thomas More Parish Family welcomes and invites every person to join us on our journey in faith and celebration. With the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and through Sacred Scripture and Tradition, we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, especially in loving service to those in need. As part of the Universal Church, we affirm the dignity of every person. All this we do to give glory and honor to God.

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Reverend Michael J. Yadron, KCHS; Ext. 312
myadron@stm-church.com
Associate Pastor..... Reverend Jordan C. Fetcko; Ext. 314
jfetcko@stm-church.com
Senior Deacon..... Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS
Deacons David Kapala, KHS
..... Joseph Stodola, KHS
..... Daniel Zurawski, KHS
Director of Finance..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Pastoral Care Coordinator.....Deacon David Kapala, KHS; Ext. 313
Director of Music..... Angie Lorandos; Ext. 338
Director of Religious Education Emily Hackett; Ext. 332
Director of Development Amanda Herbst; Ext. 342

Parish Office Staff

Hours: Mon-Friday 8:00 am-8:00 pm • Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Web Site..... www.stm-church.com
Email address.....parish.office@stm-church.com
Email address for bulletin.....bulletin@stm-church.com
Office Phone..... 836-8610 Office Fax.....836-9185
Bulletin Editor Pam Pasyk; Ext. 309
Daytime Receptionist..... Susan Strain; Ext. 310
Evening Receptionist..... Veronica Brtos; Ext. 310
Building Maintenance.....Mike Popovich 836-8610

Pastoral Ministries

Environment & Art836-8610
Eucharistic Ministers Deacon Dan Zurawski 742-6005
Hospitality/Greeters Chris Shearman 923-1419
Lectors William McDunn 922-9459
Nursery Kaaren A. Mashura 836-5079
St. Vincent de Paul Michael Martinelli 836-8610
Vocations Committee Mary Kochis 322-7262

2016-2017 Pastoral Council Members

Joe Dubczak, Chairperson Deborah Jarvis
Wendy Jasinski Nancy Klawitter
Jim Landowski Paul Liszewski
Joe O'Brien..... Kurt Popovich
Jim Secviar Dwight Reed
Cheryl Staniszewski..... Cindy Thompson

St. Thomas More School

Pre-School through 8th Grade

Office Hours: Monday– Friday ~ 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Web Site..... www.stm-school.com
School Phone..... 836-9151 School Fax.....836-0982
President..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Principal..... Jay Harker; Ext. 328
Assistant Principal Cynthia Block; Ext. 328
School Administrative Assistant..... Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 328
School Reception & Office Associate..... Sandra Steele; Ext. 329
Home & School Association..... Kris Miller; (312) 909-8156
Parish & School Offices Associate Mary Jo Biscan; Ext. 311
School Admissions Pam Pasyk; Ext. 309

Weis Center — Preschool & Pre-K
8635 Calumet Avenue ~ Munster, IN 46321

Phone.....836-2660
Fax.....836-2655

Sacramental Information

Confessions

Saturdays **3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**
First Friday 1/2 hour before the 6:30 a.m. Mass
Baptisms First and Third Sundays at 1:00 p.m.

Parents must be registered parishioners and regularly attending at least six months before the Baptism. At least one of the godparents **must** be a practicing Catholic.

Pre Baptism Class 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Parents must call the Parish Office to schedule class and/or Baptism.

Marriage..... Must be a registered, practicing member of the parish at least six months before beginning the six month preparation program for marriage.

Communion calls and visits to Hospitals and Homebound: Call the Parish Office for Sacraments at hospital or at home.

New Parishioner Registration

To make it as convenient as possible for you, new parishioners may register at any time in the Parish Office.

St. Thomas More Religious Education

Kindergarten through 8th Grade

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday — 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Religious Education Phone 836-8610
Director Emily Hackett; Ext. 332
Administrative Assistant Carolyn McGill; Ext. 336
Grades K through 8 ~ Wednesday or Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Pastoral Commissions Chairpersons

Formation/Education Allen Blocher
Parish Life Elaine Herrmann
Peace & Social Justice..... Mari Casas
Spirituality & Worship Kaaren Mashura
Stewardship..... Noreen Bickel

Parish Organizations

Altar & Rosary Society Cindy Keilman 923-9862
Blue Army Rose Marie Malburg 836-8779
Boy Scouts Curt Anglin 902-5126
Career Networking Group..... Christine Spencer 836-8610
Circle of Prayer..... Mary Jo Humpfer 836-5002
Cub Scouts Kevin Ranos Kevin.ranos@sbcglobal.net
Finance..... Barbara Shaver 838-9200
Gabriel Project..... Marilyn Glennon 836-8610
Garden Club Paul Mazerik 644-8409
Gifts of Love & Warmth..... Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544
Girl Scouts..... Renee Whelan 796-6809
Holy Name Society 836-8610
Knights of Columbus W. Frank Lewandowski (708)466-7039
Oblates..... Denise Gard (219)201-4103
Respect Life Leslie Dernul (219)741-3739
Senior Citizens Herb Cleve 670-2982
The Travelers Club..... Lois Quinn 836-7902
Ushers Club..... Jim Marmalejo 836-1463
Venture Crew..... Fr. Ben Ross 322-4505

Celebrants

Saturday, April 8

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

Sunday, April 9

6:30 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
 8:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
 10:00 a.m. Fr. Jordan Fetcko
 12:00 Noon Fr. Jordan Fetcko

Servers

FRIDAY, April 7 — Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm E. & K. McComis, E. Miller

SATURDAY, April 8

8:30 am C. & P. Olsen

10:30 am Confirmation

Sibling volunteers requested.

9:30 a.m. Practice

5:30 pm A. & L. Forszt, A. Kleszynski, G. & I. Scalzo
 MC ~ Ricky

SUNDAY, April 9 — Palm Sunday

6:30 am E. & T. Zabrecky, J. Burns/ MC ~ Alyssa

8:00 am J. Cipowski, E. Gossman, G. Kenning,
 B. Peters, M. Slivka/ MC ~ Mary B.

10:00 am A., C. & E. Powell, B. & M. Andrzejewski
 MC ~ Will

12:00 pm F. & J. Bernarte, S. Becker-Toro/MC ~ Matt H.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, April 2 — Fifth Sunday of Lent

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
 8:00 am Ralph & Yo Stenberg by Michael Mercier Family
 10:00 am Mark Marczak by Slough Family
 12:00 pm John Murin by Sheila & Frank Ziolkowski

MONDAY, April 3

6:30 am Edith Murphy by STM Altar & Rosary Society
 8:30 am Tony Serdel by Family

TUESDAY, April 4

6:30 am Patricia Casey by Husband Jim
 8:30 am John Steinhauer by Wife Cheryl
 10:00 am Joe Fernandez by STM Holy Name Society
 (MASS AT MED-INN CHAPEL, Group 3)

WEDNESDAY, April 5

6:30 am Delores Sperl by Family
 8:30 am Michael Neylon by Stanley & Lorraine Mach

THURSDAY, April 6

6:30 am Teodor Dabrowski (Ann.) by Wife & Daughter
 9:00 am Josephine Forystek (Ann.) by Family

FRIDAY, April 7

6:30 am Helen Michalik by Family
 8:30 am Frenita Guevera-Serrano (Ann.) by Serrano Family

SATURDAY, April 8

8:30 am Rosita Madarang by Serrano Family
 5:30 pm John Albizati by Family

SUNDAY, April 9 — Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
 8:00 am Deceased Members of Barberic Family by Zora Sajn
 10:00 am John Rokosz by Wife Alice
 12:00 pm Cathy Somenzi by Family

Rest in Peace

Dorothy Dubeck • Konstanty Pieczykolan

Pastoral Care Ministry

To arrange a visit from Pastoral Care for a hospitalized or homebound family member, please contact Deacon Dave Kapala at (219) 836-8610, # 313 or dkapala@stm-church.com.

Sacrificial Offerings



March 26, 2017

Adult	\$ 20,482.00
Loose	\$ 2,621.00
Children	\$ 120.21
TOTAL	\$ 23,223.21

Catholic Relief Special Collection
 \$8,635

Thank you for sharing your treasure with our parish!

Volunteers Needed

The Art & Environment Ministry is seeking volunteers to help decorate the Church for Easter Sunday. No prior experience is necessary, just the willingness to serve your parish in this important and beautiful way.

If you can share your time and talent with us, simply show-up on the morning of

**Saturday,
 April 15th
 9:00 a.m.**

Enter through the Parish Office. You'll find us in the Church or Sacristy. Questions? Contact Susan Gryfakis at (219) 688-8209.



Fifth Sunday of Lent

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." As we draw near to the great feast of Easter, the Church gives us here some food for thought regarding the idea of resurrection and eternal life. Today's Gospel shares the story of a dead man who came to life again by the power of Jesus. Lazarus, who had been lying lifeless in a tomb for four days, "came out" of the tomb, burial cloths draped around his body, in a moment that must have been absolutely astonishing! This miracle could not have been explained by anything other than divine power over life and death.

It's important to consider that this story is not so much about Jesus' own resurrection but rather it is about OURS. Jesus uses the occasion of this restoration of his friend, Lazarus, to teach that we ALL can be raised to new life through the power of the Lord. Jesus tells us that we too can overcome death by believing in him: "everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Easter, of course, will confirm for us that death has no power over the God of life. But today, during these closing days of Lent, we are reminded that we can share in this source of life by believing in Jesus.

So now is a perfect time to double-check our faith in him. Is it authentic? Do we really accept the supernatural reality of who Jesus is? Do we believe that he can conquer even the most frightening moment of human existence: death itself? If we find ourselves falling short of faith in these things, let us turn to the Lord and ask that he will increase our faith so that, with Martha, we can truly say, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Please pray for the sick of our parish...

Joshua Alvarez
Margaret Amatulli
Frieda Andersen
Mary Anhalt
Doris Aurelio
Maria Aurelio
Antonio Belmonte
Michael Berry
Michael Billeto
Michael Blazeovich
Laverne Blumka
Cheryl Bostrom
Robert Boyle
Linda Braun
Stephany Burney
Paul Burns
Dorothy Campbell
James Campbell
Thomas Cak
Al Carollo
Janet Cattanaach
Jacqueline Morrow
Christian
Willie Colby
Vincent Corseollo
Mike Curtain
Irene Dettmer
Ann DeVoy
MaryPat Devoy
Jeanine Doescher
Jim D'Orazio
Alex Eiland
Sherlon Evans
John Forde
Phyllis Garber
Denise Gard
Andrea Garritano
Margaret Geary
Emily Gibson
Dorothy Gillespie
Margaret Good
Howard Gralewski
Margaret Gray
Susan Graff
James Grunewald
Amy Hayes
Eleanore Heggi
Marie Henke

Marisol Hernandez
Becky Hill
Mary Jo Humpfer
Charlotte Hunt
Betty Ingbreton
Steve Izzo
Dennis Jablonski
Elizabeth Jacob
Barbara Jamrose
Stanley Jayjack
Carol Keilman
Kelly Jean
Irene Kerps
James Klein, Sr.
Janet Knight
Susan Kolodziej
Miller Krizmanic
Isabella Lappo
Annika LeMonier
Chris LeMonier
Debbie LeMonier
Nicklas LeMonier
Mike Lewis
Jo Lisiniewicz
Edward Liskiewicz
Stanley Liskiewicz
Maria Lovell
Marilyn Madsen
Mary Manchak
Ruth Marquardt
Brady Martin
Larkin McKenzie
Jenny Mendoza
Faye Meny
Sandi Merlo
Erin Meyer
Ann Miskovich
Andrew Moll
David Moll
Elissa Moll
Genevieve Mrvan
Jean Narvid
Donna Nichols
Steven Nowaczyk
Clare O'Brien
Donna O'Connor
Valerie O'Donnell
Danny Ogren

Maryann Pancheri
James Pancheri
Marty Pavovic
Johanna Petruich
Angelo Petrunaro
Andrew Pieczyrak
Elizabeth Pilones
Ron Plewniak
Sylvester Porras
Dennis Powell
Ronald Prus
Jerry Reach
Timothy Ribble
Jackie Roach
Shirley Romanyak
Ann Sardella
George Sauer
Marie Schultz
Marianne Schwartz
William Schwartz
Zachery Scriff
James Secviar
Jim Seul
Renee Shehan
Ruth Siorek
Nick Skinner
Lydia Skorupa
Carolyn Smiley
Deborah Stareck
Georgianne Suto
Florence Stevens
James Szymanski
Barbara Szypczak
Rose Theis
Gerardo Trevino
Kathie Trudgian
Anthony Ubuane
Tony Vanden Heuvel
Raymond Vanderbok
Julia Vrbanich
James Wachel
Adele Wall
Marilyn (Vrabel) Warda
Stephanie Wisniewski
Don Woszczyński
Cecilia Ziegler
Cody Ziemkowski

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY, April 2

Boy Scout Award Mass at 2:00 p.m. with Bishop Hying

MONDAY, April 3

5:45 pm Handbell Practice (until 7:00 pm) ~ Church
6:30 pm Blue Army ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Schola Choir ~ Church
7:00 pm Parish Life ~ Conference Room

TUESDAY, April 4

Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

9:15 am Eucharistic Adoration (until 6:30 p.m.) ~ Chapel
1:00 pm Prayer/Vocations ~ Chapel
6:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Chapel

WEDNESDAY, April 5

9:30 am Bible Study ~ Conference Room
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 p.m.)
5:00 pm RCIC ~ Teachers' Lounge
7:00 pm Taizé Prayer ~ Church
7:15 pm Handbell Practice (until 8:15) ~ Conference Room

THURSDAY, April 6

9:45 am Mary's Way of the Cross ~ Church
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 p.m.)
6:15 pm Scripture Study ~ Conference Room
6:45 pm All Seasons Chorale ~ Church

FRIDAY, April 7

9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth ~ Conference Room
2:15 pm School Stations of the Cross ~ Church
6:00 pm Confirmation Practice ~ Church
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross ~ Church

SATURDAY, April 8

10:00 am Oblates of St. Benedict ~ Conference Room
10:30 am Confirmation for the 8th Grade Students of STM

Readings for Week of April 2

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14--27:66 or 27:11-54

Mary's Way of the Cross

Come journey with Mary as we present "Mary's Way of the Cross".

Join us for our last Mary's Way of the Cross on **Thursday, April 6th** After the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We meet in the Church. Everyone is welcome; bring a friend.



THE GLORY BELONGS TO GOD

“Will God ever ask you to do something you are not able to do? The answer is yes — all the time! It must be that way, for God’s glory and kingdom. If we function according to our ability alone, we get the glory; if we function according to the power of the Spirit within us, God gets the glory. He wants to reveal Himself to a watching world.”

~ Henry T. Blackaby

So many times, Christians think that God is going to “go easy” on them simply because they say that they believe. However, just the opposite is true. Jesus reminded us that, “Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.” (Lk 12:48)

Knowing that we are responsible and are going to be held accountable can be daunting. But Jesus never said that we were going to have to go it alone. On the contrary, He promised, over and over again, that we would have all the help that we would ever need: in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

“While the difficult takes time, the impossible just takes a while longer.” That may well be the motto of the Christian. We face impossible and insurmountable tasks on a pretty regular basis. And we accomplish those tasks because we have the help of God in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Those great gifts are poured into our lives the moment we are baptized. At our Confirmation, we receive a fullness of the Holy Spirit. The key, of course, is to be open to the gifts of the Spirit. If we are not open, if we do not believe that the gifts are real or that God will give us what we need, we will not receive a thing.

If we are open, however? Well, look out world! Because, if we are open to the gifts of the Spirit, God will pour them into our lives. The true Christian always uses the gifts of the Spirit for the benefit of others. The glory does not belong to us, the glory belongs to God who gives us all good things.

We come to rely on the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us in this life. As our Lenten journey continues, let us turn to the promise of the Spirit and ask God for the spiritual gifts that we need to make this season a holy one both for ourselves and for those with whom we come in contact: our family, friends, co-workers, and others.

FAITH ACTION: Please keep our eighth graders in your prayers today and throughout this week as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming Saturday. *Jn. Mike*



PLEASE REMEMBER THEM

Please pray for the priests and deacons who have served the Diocese of Gary so faithfully and whose anniversaries of death are this week:

- April 2: Msgr. Everard N. Klein (1983)
- April 6: Rev. Louis A. Jeziorski (1973)
- Rev. Gilbert G. Wirtz (1981)

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

This **Tuesday, April 4**, we will have our Lenten Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. There will be several priests available to hear your confession. We hope to see you there.

For those of you who do not like driving at night, we will be hearing the students’ confessions immediately after the Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Mass. Again, several priests will be on hand. You may go to confession at that time if you wish.

The following is a list of penance services at other parishes in the Southlake Deanery for the remainder of Lent:

Monday, April 3

- St. Edward, Lowell
- St. Matthias, Crown Point 6:00 p.m.
- St. Michael, Schererville

Tuesday, April 4

- Our Lady of Consolation, Merrillville
- St. Mary, Crown Point

Wednesday, April 5

- St. James, Highland
- St. Joseph, Dyer

Thursday, April 6

- St. Andrew the Apostle, Merrillville
- St. Mary/St. Anne, Griffith

Friday, April 7

- Ss. Peter & Paul, Merrillville 1:00 p.m.

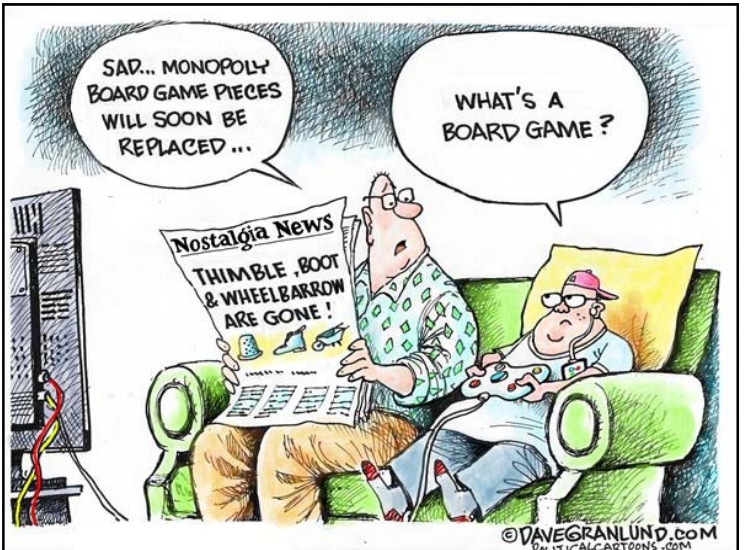
Wednesday, April 12

- Holy Name, Cedar Lake

Please join us for Taizé Prayer each Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the church. We hope you will join us.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS
Stations of the Cross will be this Friday at 7:00 p.m.
School Stations of the Cross will be Friday at 2:15 p.m.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE
After the Baptism of his baby brother, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.
His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, “That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you guys.”





Religious Education

April Schedule

- 5/6 Class
- 7 **Confirmation Practice**
6:00 p.m. in the Church
- 8 **Confirmation 10:30 a.m. in the Church**
All STM 8th Grade Students
- 12/13 **No Class —Holy Week**
- 19/20 Class
- 26/27 Last Class (except 3rd Grade students)

May Schedule

- 3/4 Communion Practice — *All 3rd Grade students must attend both days*
- 6 **First Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Mass**

Oblates of St. Benedict

Saturday, April 8th

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon in the STM Conference Room
All are welcome: *Bring the kids, your family & neighbors.*

Annual Scout Award Mass

Light of Christ

LECTOR SOCIETY



Parvuli Dei

PARISH OFFICE



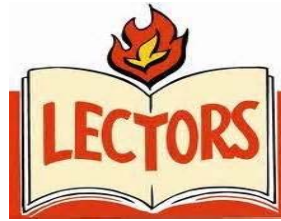
Today at St. Thomas More
Sunday, April 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

Bishop Donald Hying will be the celebrant of the annual Catholic Scout Mass. Scouts from the Diocese of Gary will receive their Religious Emblems and other religious awards.

You are more than welcome to join us in this joyous celebration.
Congratulations to our Scouts!



Lectors for the Week



Sunday, April 9

6:30 am Mass
Mark & Gabriella Bittner

8:00 am Mass
Kristen Ball & Diane DeSoto

10:00 am Mass
Theresa Kowalski & Bill McDunn

Saturday, April 8

5:30 pm Mass
Julie Blanford &
Richard Gard

Sunday, April 9

6:30 am Mass
Main: Jan Holka
Choir: Tim & Karen Rutz

8:00 am Mass
Main: Paul & Jan Liszewski
Chapel: Mary Silvasi

10:00 am Mass
Main: Marisol Martinez
Chapel: Diane Adley & Joan Mucha
Choir: Dwight Reed



Saturday, April 8

5:30 pm Mass
Chapel: Rob & Dorothy
Mangus
Choir: Bill & JoAnn
Karr

12:00 Noon Mass
Main: Diane Gralewski
Choir: Pat Batchelder

Altar & Rosary Society

Mass & Breakfast

The Altar & Rosary Society will join together with the Holy Name Society for their annual Mass and Breakfast

Sunday, April 23 at 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Pews will be reserved in the front of the church. Breakfast will follow in the Cafeteria. To make a reservation for breakfast, call the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610 by Wednesday, April 19th. Spouses are welcome. Call Kaaren Mashura at (219) 836-5079.

Nursery Schedule

The parish Nursery is open during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, located off the narthex (main entrance) of the church.

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday

Kaaren Mashura • Mary Karl
Allison Rusnak

Sunday, April 16

Easter Sunday

Kaaren Mashura • Aubrey Rivera

Sunday, April 23

Ann Harkenrider

Jennifer Anderson • Gianna Hough

Sunday, April 30

Mary Karl • Susie Kinsella



Holy Name Society

Next Meeting:

Monday, April 17 —7:00 p.m. in the Solar Room.
All men of the parish are invited. Join us in spiritual renewal as we pray the Rosary before our business meeting & refreshments.

Mass & Breakfast

The Holy Name Society will join together with the Altar & Rosary Society for their annual Mass and Breakfast on

Sunday, April 23 at 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Pews will be reserved in the front of the church.

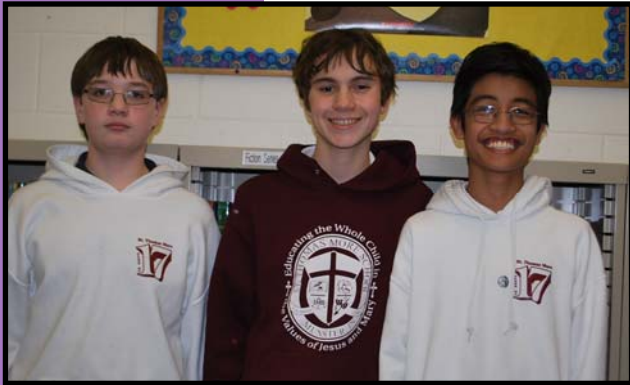
Breakfast will follow in the Cafeteria.

Please make reservations for the breakfast by calling the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610 by Wednesday, April 19th.

Spouses are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Bill Burke at (312) 322-6462.



St. Thomas More School Chess Teams *Qualify for State Tournament*



For the first time in St. Thomas More School history, an STMS 8U team finished in first place at last month's regional Chess Club competition and competed in the IN State Chess Competition, along with 3 other qualifying teams from St. Thomas More School. The competition was held last weekend at Morton High School in Hammond and we look forward to hearing the results when our students return from Spring Break this upcoming week.



Regional 1st Place 8U Team from STMS:

Mark Caraher, Ben Mellon, Jacob Bernarte and Ethan Pierce (*not shown*).



Regional Qualifying 8U Team from STMS:

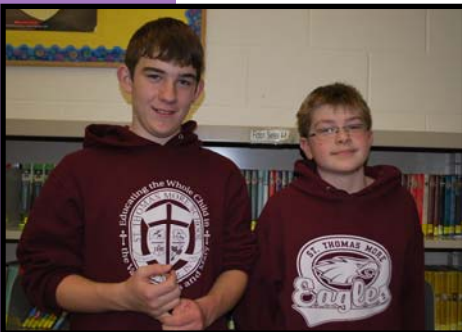
Graham Mikrut, Jack Fugger, Deyanira Meras, Courtney Companik and Will Feeny.

In addition to our 8th grade teams, we are proud to announce that we also had two 6U teams from St. Thomas More School competing in the State Chess tournament. There were 42 teams from region schools who competed in the regional last month.



Regional 6th Place 6U Team from STMS:

Frank Krembs, Ethan Wisler, Matt Walsh and Luke Buksa.



Regional 6th Place 6U Team from STMS:

Brendan Feeny, Michael Casner, Francesca Bernarte and Sam Mellon.



Many thanks to our dedicated coaches and mentors!



SpringFest is Coming!

SPRINGFEST IS COMING!



Save the date now for St. Thomas More School's annual fun fair! There's something for kids of all ages!

**Games • Food
Great Prizes • Raffles
and More!**

**Friday, April 21st
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**
in the

St. Thomas More Gym
Everyone in the community is invited, so bring your friends, relatives and especially the grandkids.

Game tickets can be purchased at the door. Watch future bulletins for all the details, 'cause you won't want to miss it!



Your help is requested!

We are always grateful to our St. Thomas More parish family for their generous donations to help our school.

You can help St. Thomas More School by donating!

**Please donate any of the following
adult or children's items for our raffle:**

Unopened Toys	Gift Cards:
Games	<i>Restaurants,</i>
Electronics (<i>large or small</i>)	<i>Game Centers, Craft or</i>
Jewelry	<i>Retail or Craft Stores</i>
Sporting Event Tickets	Massage Gift Cards
Concert Tickets	Hair &/or Spa Services
Vacation Destinations	Coupons for Free
Hotel Vouchers	Services of Any Kind

For more information or to donate items, please contact

Renee Whelan at Whelanliuna41@att.net.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Any donation, large or small, helps

St. Thomas More School and its students.

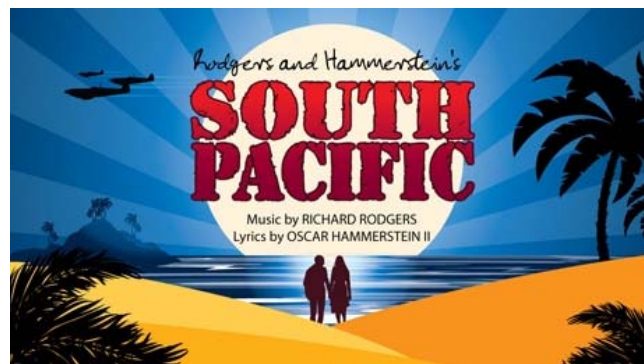
STM Travelers Club

We're Back!

"South Pacific" Musical & Dinner

April 27, 2017

The Fireside Dinner Theatre in Fort Atkinson, WI
Cost: \$99 per person • Bus will leave the STM North Parking
Lot 8:00 a.m. and return at 6:00 p.m.



What better way to begin our first 2017 Travelers trip than to attend the magnificent

Rogers and Hammerstein's musical *South Pacific*.

This musical is a story of love, heroism, courage and optimism.

The musical score includes songs such as, *Some Enchanted Evening*, *There is Nothing Like a Dame*, *Bali Ha'i*, *I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair*" and *I'm in Love With A Wonderful Man*. This will be a theatrical experience that you will never forget and we feel fortunate to have tickets for it.

Please make your reservations early so you won't miss this touching & dramatic musical with unbelievable dancing and singing. We will enjoy a dinner at the Fireside Dinner Theatre which is famous for their homemade, delicious meals. The menu includes a Tropical Salad, Chicken Kona Kai, stir-fried rice, Canadian Bacon and fresh julienned vegetables. The finale is Banana Bread Pudding topped with Caramel Rum Sauce. Yum!

There is a shop for our Travelers to browse through for beautiful and unusual gifts; an added bonus!

Need we say more? You may make your reservations at the STM Parish Office. The cost includes transportation, musical, dinner and all gratuities.

Bulletin Deadlines

With the Easter holiday approaching it is imperative that bulletin articles are submitted to: bulletin@stm-church.com, at least two (2) weeks ahead of the desired publication date.

Vocations Committee

*Have you ever thanked our priests
for all that they do for us?*

Do you have a vocation prayer card that you use everyday?
Have you ever talked to your family and children about how happy they would be if they chose to join the priesthood?

Will you call your children's attention to these articles on vocations? It would be helpful!

A vocation prayer following mealtime would be so significant!

Senior Citizen News

All senior members of our parish are invited to join. Meetings are held twice a month at the Kish Community Room, 10000 Calumet in Munster at 1:00 p.m. (unless noted).

Monthly Luncheon

Monday, April 3rd at 11:00 a.m.

Round the Clock Restaurant in Highland
(Corner of Martha Street & Indianapolis Blvd.)

Join the STM Seniors for a great meal and even better conversation.

No reservations necessary. See you there!

Wednesday, April 12th

Note: This date has changed from the original calendar.

Business Meeting

Election of Officers for the 2017/18 Year.

Thursday, April 20th

Social Gathering

Wednesday, May 3rd

**Annual Spring Luncheon &
Installation of New Officers**

12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m. at the Carmelite Monastery.

Thursday, May 18th

Social Gathering

Wednesday, July 19th

Annual Seniors Picnic

12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria

Save the Date

Any parishioner who has given of their time and talent for the benefit of St. Thomas More Parish is invited to the annual

Parish Appreciation Dinner

Saturday, April 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a beautiful spring evening with your fellow parishioners as we celebrate

April in Paris

featuring a menu of French cuisine for your dining pleasure.

Beer/wine and sodas/ coffee

will be served.

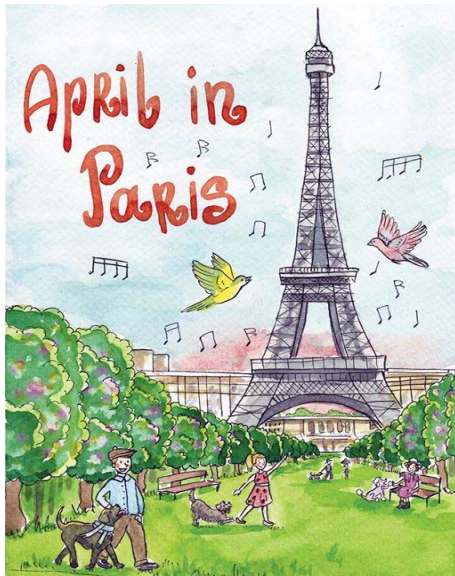
Entertainment & dancing will be provided by

Rick Mlynarski and the

Merry Notes

Bring your camera for a photo op in front of the Eiffel Tower.

Reservation form coming soon.



St. Vincent de Paul

What we need most now are new members to become Vincentians.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in the Parish Conference Room at 7:00 p.m.

We need people to handle "utility" calls (can be done from home), people to help with "food" calls and teams to deliver food to homes in Munster & South Hammond.

Please consider joining and becoming a Vincentian now.

Find out more about the St. Vincent de Paul Society by contacting Mike Martinelli, President at (219) 836-8610.

The SVDP Pantry needs:

Peanut Butter • Jelly
Mac & Cheese • Tuna
Soup • Crackers • Canned Fruit
Canned Meats
Toilet Paper
Laundry Soap
Shampoo for Men & Women
Adult Tooth Brushes
Adult Toothpaste
Children's Tooth Brushes
Children's Toothpaste



STM Career Networking Group

80% of Jobs are Unadvertised
82% of Jobs are found through Networking

15% Found through Search Firms

10% Found through Want Ads

4% Create Their Own Jobs • 2% Blindly Send Resumes



Thursday, April 20, 2017

7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

Tactics for Salary Negotiations

Where: STM Weis Center
8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN
When: The 3rd Thursday of Every Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
Email: STMCareerGroup@gmail.com

Regular Meetings are Free! Open to All!



For those who are *unemployed* (in transition), new to the job market, employed but changing careers or those who can offer employment opportunities through their current professional connections. Have your cover letter, resume or thank you note critiqued by a professional.

Bishop Noll News

Join BNI for **"The Big Event"** Fundraiser
Friday, April 28th — 6:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

in the BNI Fieldhouse • 1519 Hoffman Street in Hammond.
Enjoy great food catered by Q-BBQ in Schererville, drinks, dancing, raffles, live auction and more.

This celebration benefits the Principal's Scholarship Fund.

Tickets: \$50 per person (before 4/21) or \$60 (after 4/21).

Attendees must be 21 or older. Get tickets for event or cash raffle at the school or by contacting Juli Sandoval at (219) 932-9058 or jsandoval@bishoppnoll.org. or visit: <https://bishoppnoll.org/support-bni/the-big-event-2017> for online registration.



Building Strong Catholic Families



"Strong Catholic Families:
Strong Catholic Youth"
comes to the Diocese of Gary!

The research on faith and the family cannot be clearer: Parents matter *a lot!* That's why the Diocese of Gary Office for Youth & Young Adults invites you to learn more about how the

**"Strong Catholic Families:
Strong Catholic Youth"**

initiative can help parishes and schools better engage families in the life of the Church.

Parents are invited to a *free session* that will explore the challenges and blessing of Catholic parenting today on

Friday, April 28 from 6:30 –8:30 p.m.

at St. John the Evangelist Church in St. John.

Parish leaders are invited to bring a small team and attend both the Friday parent session and a training/in-service Saturday morning April 29 to examine effective family ministry strategies.

Parents and parish leaders alike can visit strongcatholicfamiliesdg.org to RSVP.

Please RSVP on or before April 21.

For more information, please contact Kevin Driscoll at (219) 769-9292, x229.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Wedding Anniversary Mass & Reception
Saturday, May 6th at 4:00 p.m.

at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels in Gary, IN.
Couples celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50 or more years of marriage are invited to take part.

Information can be found in the Parish Office.

Send Us Your Anniversary Info

Celebrate your love and share the joy of your marriage with our parish community! Email your wedding photo, anniversary date and the year and location of your wedding (and anything else you'd like to share) to:

Pam Pasyk at ppasyk@stm-school.com.

Planting Possibilities

Brewing Possibilities Fundraiser
ByWay Brewing on April 22nd

Gather a group of friends for a fun evening at ByWay Brewing, located at 2825 Carlson Drive in Hammond (across from the Indiana Welcome Center).



Enjoy great beer for sampling, wine, tasty appetizers & desserts, live music and surprises on tap.

VIP tickets are \$65 and gain early entry at 6:00 p.m. to allow plenty of time for special samplings & insiders brewery tour.

General admission: \$50 at 7:30 p.m.

This is a 21+ event requiring proper identification for admission.

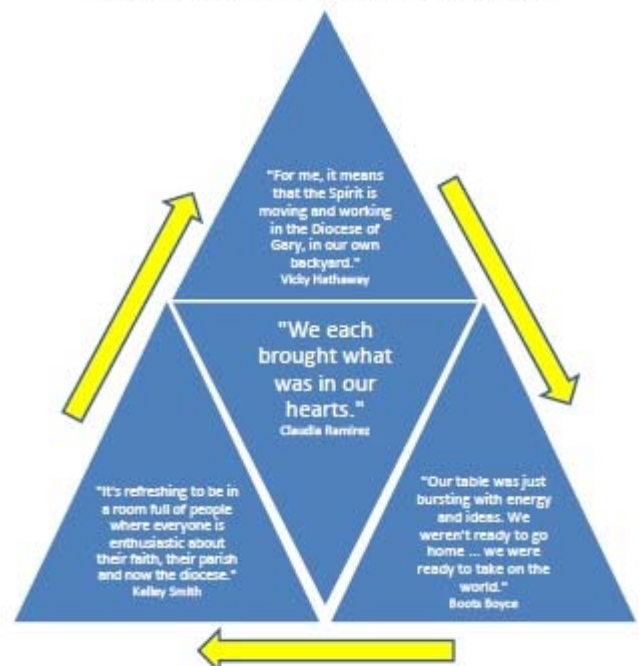


Sponsors and silent auction donors are needed for our fundraiser to benefit young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities in Lake County, IN. Tickets are available at brewingpossibilities.eventbrite.com or can be ordered at plantingpossibilities.org/brewingpossibilities. For more info: ruth@plantingpossibilities.org or call 219.237.9353.

Synod 2017



Deanery Sessions Feedback



Source: Northwest Indiana Catholic (3/12/17)

Rest in Peace

Sr. Mary Jean Feeney

Many parishioners will remember Sr. Mary Jean Feeney, who passed away last weekend at the Benedictine Sisters Mother House in Rock Island, IL.



Sr. Mary Jean served as St. Thomas More School's first principal and worked in many capacities at the school, include teaching 7th/8th grade mathematics.

She later worked in the parish finance office and remained in service at St. Thomas More until her retirement approximately 10 years ago.

Sr. Mary Jean was a pivotal part of the St. Thomas More parish history and she will be dearly missed. Please pray for the repose of her soul, as well as for consolation for all in her order and her family. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

Follow Us on Facebook!

There is always something exciting happening in our school and parish and what you see in the bulletin is only a fraction of the pictures from events and activities that take place every day at St. Thomas More.

Be sure to 'like' us and follow us on Facebook for more information about events, anniversaries and our ministries.

All Night Vigil to Save a Thousand Souls

Please join us as we pray for world peace and an end to abortion.

First Friday/First Saturday, April 7 & 8, beginning with 7:00 p.m. Mass and ending with 6:00 a.m. Mass Saturday at the Carmelite Monastery, 1628 Ridge Road in Munster. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers, candlelight procession. Refreshments. Sponsored by: Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima. For more information, please contact Rose Marie at (219) 836-8779.

Amish Bakery & Market

Sponsored by the Msgr. Weis Knights of Columbus
*Proceeds will benefit the
St. Thomas More Capital Campaign.*

Saturday, April 22nd

10:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m. (or until sold out)

Weis Center

8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN

**Pre-orders must be
paid & submitted by
April 14th.
Pick-up on April 22.**



Pre-order the following:

Order forms available at all church entrances & in the Parish Office.

**Nuts & Candy
Donuts • Pies
Breads • Muffins
Rolls
Cookies • Granola**



Available on day of sale:

**Cheese • Butters
Jellies & Jams**



**VISA & MasterCard
accepted
(\$10 minimum payment)
Cash
(no minimum purchase)**



**Brought to you by
Rise 'n Roll Bakery
1065 N. 1150 West
Middlebury, IN 46540
www.risenroll.com**



Events in the Area...

Pierogi Sales

Order pierogis from St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church. Call your order in by Wednesday each week and pick up on Friday between Noon and 4:00 p.m. at the church. Leave your order/ flavor on answering machine at (219) 838-9811. Potato, kraut, cheese or prune. \$9/dozen or \$5/half-dozen.

Lenten Soup Supper

Enjoy 6 soups for only \$6.00 at St. John Bosco every Wednesday during Lent, sponsored by the St. John Bosco Youth Group. Supper includes homemade soups, salad, bread/butter/crackers, dessert and drink. Dates: April 5 and April 12. (219) 844-9027.

Next SPRED Meeting

SPRED (Special Religious Development) Program will be held on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Parish, 525 N. Broad St. in Griffith. This gathering is for parents of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities as well as learning problems.

This gathering is also for those interested in supporting these people in the SPRED Ministry.

No experience is required.

Each SPRED community needs 8 adult volunteers. Training is provided. Come and discover SPRED...ask questions, receive information, and listen. God may be calling you to respond. Contact Elizabeth Sivek at e.sivek@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Camp Lawrence

Starting to think about what the summer will hold for your children? Choose from 8 different, exciting summer camp experiences offered at beautiful, nearby Camp Lawrence in Valparaiso. Nestled

around Moss Lake, the camp is run by the Diocesan CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) providing a safe environment for your children to have some summer fun. Camp Lawrence is now accepting applications for this summer's camps, which run from June 18th to July 29th. For more info, contact them at (219) 736-8931 or go to: www.nwicyo.org.

Family Planning Dinner

Tuesday, April 4th, 5:30-9:00 pm, Avalon Manor, Merrillville
Join us for a celebration of love, marriage, and family. Families, NFP teachers, priests, and others from our diocese come together in our first Natural Family Planning get-together. This is a FREE dinner! Children are welcome. We will have a bouncy house and young adults to help out with the kids. This is your chance to meet with other NFP using families, clergy, and professionals in order to encourage and support each other. Chris Reynolds, Executive Director of the Couple to Couple League, will be our special guest. Register by March 28th. Call Rosanne at 219-769-9292 x259 for more information or to register.

Easter "Święconka" Shopping Trip

Polish-American Cultural Society of NWI will host a shopping trip on Tuesday, April 4th. Bus will pick up at 9:30 a.m. (arrive 15 minutes early) at Nativity of Our Savior Catholic Church, 2949 Willowcreek Road in Portage via a "school bus"; no restroom. Shopping at Shop & Save Market in Bridgeview, IL, 10:00 a.m. to Noon for an excellent variety of Polish and other ethnic foods, bakery, deli items and more. Lunch at Old Town Restaurant (Polish cuisine) in Lemont, IL from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. If time permits we will stop at Celina's Market (Polish-owned) in Lemont. Estimated return to Portage is 4:00 p.m. Bring your own coolers/shopping bags. Seating limited. Cost is \$30/person and includes lunch, tips, and transportation. Reservations by April 1st by calling Theresa at 219-464-1369.

Lenten Reflection in Music & Word

St. Mary of the Lake, 6060 Miller Avenue in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood, will be hosting "In Calvary's Shadow: Lenten Reflection in Music and Word" on Palm Sunday, April 9th at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend and reflect on the message of Lent through song & scripture. A community pot luck to follow. For more information, contact the parish at (219) 938-1373.

Marion Theatre Guild

Marian Theatre Guild, 119th Street & Lincoln Avenue in Whiting presents *Leading Ladies*, a comedy farce by Ken Ludwig on

Saturdays: April 22 & 29 at 8:15 p.m.
Sundays: April 23 & 30 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$16 (only \$14 for Seniors)

Call Box Office starting Monday, April 10th at (219) 473-5555. Open 7:00-9:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. Credit cards accepted. Marian Memorial Auditorium is located at Dinner theater available for Saturday performances.

Holy Trinity 100th Anniversary

Holy Trinity Croatian Church in East Chicago will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary with a reception on Trinity Sunday, June 11, 2017 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Dynasty Banquet Hall in Hammond. To advertise in the commemorative anniversary book, please contact the church by April 1st.

Polish Scholarship Essay Contest

The Polish Heritage Association is accepting entries for the 2017 Scholarship Essay Contest. Open to high school seniors and full-time undergraduate students (no age limit) who reside in the NWI counties of Lake, Porter, LaPorte, etc. Contestants need not be of Polish descent; qualified students of all ethnic backgrounds are welcome. Essay theme: "Polish Heritage and What It Means to Me" should combine formal research & personal experience for a minimum of 1,000 words. Scholarship prizes of \$1,000 and \$500. Deadline is May 3rd, 2017. For complete information and entry form, contact Janusz Duzinkiewicz at jduzinkiewicz@pnw.edu.

