



It is in emptying ourselves that we truly engage in God's work. Never forget that ultimate truth: we will all be face-to-face with God one day and have to make an account of what we have done and whom we have helped.

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. 2312
myadron@stm-church.com
Senior Deacons David Kapala, KHS
..... Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS
Deacon Joseph Stodola, KHS
Director of Finance Noreen Bickel; Ext. 2330
Pastoral Care Coordinator Deacon David Kapala, KHS; Ext. 2315
Director of Music Angie Lorandos; Ext. 2338
Director of Religious Education Emily Hackett; Ext. 2232

St. Thomas More Parish Website: www.stm-church.com

Parish Office Staff

Hours: Mon-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm • Saturday 9:00 am –Noon
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. 2309
Daytime Receptionist Ext. 2300
Evening Receptionist..... Ext. 2300
Building Maintenance..... Mike Popovich 836-8610, Ext. 2313
Custodial Supervisor..... Kim Smith 836-8610, Ext. 2331

Pastoral Ministries

Environment & Art..... Helen Jaworski 836-8610
Eucharistic Ministers..... James Kaspar 836-8610
Hospitality/Greeters Vicky Odegaard 322-6391
Lectors..... Richard Gard 836-8610
Nursery Kaaren A. Mashura 836-5079
St. Vincent de Paul..... Terry Oprinovich 836-8610
Vocations Committee 836-8610

2022-2023 Pastoral Council Members

Julius Ballanco Bernadine Barrett, Chairperson
Carolyn Cenko..... Leslie Dernulc
Debra Harker Christi Kordeck
Katie Kordeck Paul Liszewski
Eric Miller Jean Nanos
Joe Peters..... Daniel Straka

St. Thomas More School

Preschool through 8th Grade

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

Websitewww.stm-school.com
School Phone.....836-9151 School Fax 836-0982
President..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 2330
Principal Dr. Samantha Francis; Ext. 2258
School Administrative Assistant..... Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 2200
School Reception & Office Associate..... Nereida Harretos; Ext. 2201
School Parent Association..... Kandace Mack (708) 415-4133
School Admissions..... Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309
Director of Development..... Karen Leluga; Ext. 2307
Business Manager..... Maria Vega; Ext. 2339

Weis Center

8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321

Phone..... 836-2660

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 6:00 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.

Stop in during the day, or take advantage of our convenient Saturday office hours.

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. 2232

Administrative Assistant..... Rosemary Strimbu; Ext. 2236

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 Paul Liszewski

Parish Organizations

Altar & Rosary Society..... Cindy Keilman 923-9862
Boy Scouts Sergio Sanchez (773) 412-3109
Career Networking Group..... Jim Kaczka (219) 201-0335
..... or Donna Weidenfeller (219) 688-7597
Circle of Prayer..... Carolyn Cenko 741-2509
..... carolynrealtor@sbcglobal.net
Cub Scouts Patricia Sinclair • plalessandrini@yahoo.com
Finance Barbara Shaver 838-9200
Gabriel Project..... Marilyn Glennon 801-6586
Garden Club..... Paul Mazerik 644-8409
Gifts of Love & Warmth..... Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544
Girl Scouts Renee Whelan 796-6809
Holy Name Society..... Bill Burke: sbburke3@att.net
Knights of Columbus..... Chris Bedenk
..... wgkchrisbedenk@gmail.com or (219) 595-2470
Oblates..... Denise Gard (219)201-4103
Respect Life..... Leslie Dernulc (219)741-3739
Seniors of STM..... Marion Case (219)743-3543
Ushers Club Jim Marmalejo 718-8704

Please remember St. Thomas More in your Will and Estate Planning

Celebrants

Saturday, August 20
 5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

Sunday, August 21
 6:30 a.m. Carmelite Father
 8:00 a.m. Carmelite Father
 10:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
 12:00 Noon Fr. Mike Yadron

Servers

Saturday, August 20
 5:30 p.m. A. Hanson, D. Brantley/MC ~ Nick

Sunday, August 21
 8:00 a.m. J. Dye, H. Jorsch/MC ~ Abi
 10:00 a.m. R. Andrzejewski, M. Miller/MC ~ Ty
 12:00 p.m. B., I. & S. Ramirez/MC ~ Jack

Rest in Peace

Edie Sandoval • Renee Bianchi

Intercessions for Life

May Catholics recognize the needs of pregnant and parenting women present in their communities and help them obtain the necessities of life:
We pray to the Lord.

Bulletin Deadlines

Please submit any information you'd like included in the bulletin **at least 2 full weeks in advance** to: bulletin@stm-church.com.



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." Luke 12:51

Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves with our family and friends, especially when it comes to politics and religion. We don't want to cause any turmoil. However, many times this is at the expense of the truth. The truth being Jesus Christ. Too many people are misguided because they rely on their own limited human ability to reason and are not allowing faith in God to guide them. Form your conscience; take a stance for life, marriage and religious liberty.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, August 14 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
 8:00 am Salvador & Mary Garcia by Garcia Family
 10:00 am Donna Jean Strange by Family
 12:00 pm William Jones by Joseph and Carole Janusonis

MONDAY, August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am Carolyn Bone by Joseph Dawson
 8:30 am William "Bill" Joseph O'Brien, Jr. by Mike & Jill Popovich

TUESDAY, August 16 — Stephen of Hungary

6:30 am Deceased Members of Holmes Family by Kate Leto
 8:30 am Joanna Bartkus by Family

WEDNESDAY, August 17

6:30 am Josephine Serrato by the Moreno Family
 8:30 am All Souls Day Intentions

THURSDAY, August 18

6:30 am Nancy Simpson by David & Anne Kinser
 9:00 am Paul Lindner by Schwemlein Family

FRIDAY, August 19 — St. John Eudes

6:30 am Joan Galullo by Altar & Rosary
 8:30 am Cary Bosak by Diane & Wasson Beckman

SATURDAY, August 20 — St. Bernard

8:30 am Robert Zubay by Ramona Skarupa
 5:30 pm Sonny P. Castor by Joseph & Carole Janusonis

SUNDAY, August 21

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
 8:00 am K.D. You by Janine Slivka
 10:00 am Amanda Jurkash by Jurkash Family
 12:00 pm Julia Rose Martini by Joseph & Carole Janusonis

OFFICE HOURS Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday:
 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.
 Saturday:
 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

Parish Library

The St. Thomas More Parish Library is located at the Weis Center. Feel free to take a book (or two) home the next time you visit the Weis Center. Books are organized by topic and author's last name. When finished, please return the book/s in their correct, alphabetized section for the next person.

Automated Contributions

As we look forward with renewed hope about the safety and health of our parish, area and nation, we also look forward to many more in-person activities, including church attendance.

There are many options to support our parish!



1. Collection Basket at Church

2. Mail/Drop-Off Your Contribution:

Mail or drop-off at Parish Office

3. Make a Payment Online:

Donate online through our parish website by using PayPal/debit/credit card: [http://www.stm-](http://www.stm-church.com/)

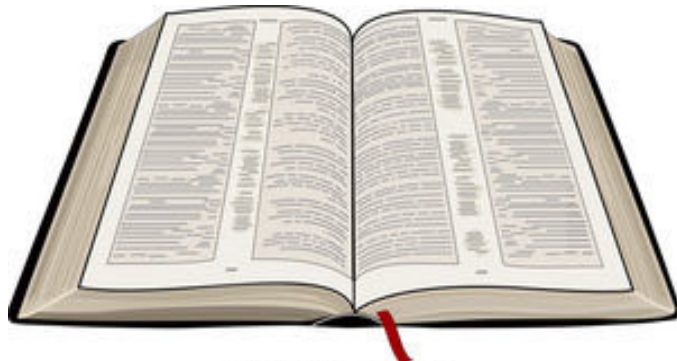
[church.com/](http://www.stm-church.com/). Go to "Donate" button in "Virtual Offering" section.

Set-Up Automated Payment: Instruction/forms on parish website: <http://www.stm-church.com/>

Questions? Contact Noreen Bickel: (219) 836-8610, #2330 nbickel@stm-church.com

Readings: Week of August 14

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 [14b]/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53
 Monday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
 Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30
 Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16
 Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14
 Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40
 Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12
 Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30



Pray for the sick of our parish...

Joshua Alvarez
 Chiara Andrzejewski
 Doris Aurelio
 Maria Aurelio
 Pat Batchelder
 Antonio Belmonte
 Mary Berry
 Michael Berry
 Michael Billedo
 Diane Bochnowski
 Cheryl Bostrom
 Linda Braun
 G. Briney
 Stephany Burney
 Kathleen Burns
 Diane Butler
 Dorothy Campbell
 James Campbell
 Janet Cattanaach
 Jacqueline Morrow
 Christian
 Ursula Cichy
 Joseph Clune
 Willie Colby
 Charlotte Conn
 Vincent Corsello
 Mike Curtain
 Valerie Czapkowicz
 Doris Dabrowski
 Sarah Dalton
 Aaron Dudek
 Alex Eiland
 Sherlon Evans
 James Fletcher
 Heriberto Flores
 Maria Flores
 John Forde
 Bonnie Gabrione
 Rich Gagliani
 Christine Gajda
 Phyllis Garber
 Andrea Garritano
 Margaret Geary
 Emily Gibson
 Joan Glinski
 Monica Gonzalez
 Howard Gralewski
 Margaret Gray
 Susan Graff
 Christine Greenberg
 Mary Ellen Gullicks
 Katie Kardes Hargett
 Rosemarie Havran
 Amy Hayes
 Dick Hemingway

Marie Henke
 Elaine Herrmann
 Adelina Hernandez
 Bertha Birdy Hernandez
 Irma Hernandez
 Marisol Hernandez
 Robert Heseck
 Becky Hill
 Marie Hill
 Joan Hoess
 Sally Joy Hollingshead
 Charlotte Hunt
 Betty Ingbreton
 Joseph S. Iwan
 Steve Izzo
 Elizabeth Jacob
 Barbara Jamrose
 Stanley Jayjack
 Kelly Jean
 Kevin Karl
 Dan Karulski
 Mark Kenney
 Irene Kerps
 James Klein, Sr.
 Janet Knight
 Susan Kolodziej
 Gregory P. Koscielski
 Crystal Kurek
 Annika LeMonier
 Chris LeMonier
 Debbie LeMonier
 Nicklas LeMonier
 Dorothy Lesnefsky
 Kris Lisikiewicz
 Jo Lisiniewicz
 Edward Liskiewicz
 Stanley Liskiewicz
 Maria Lovell
 James Malayter
 Brady Martin
 Paul Martin
 Carolyn McGill
 Larkin McKenzie
 Jacob Mencliewicz
 Jenny Mendoza
 Faye Meny
 Sandi Merlo
 Erin Meyer
 Benjamin Mikels
 John Mitchener
 Andrew Moll
 Thomas Mordaunt
 Genevieve Mrvan
 Bernadine Nemeth
 Donna Nichols

Maria Novak
 Steven Nowaczyk
 Clare O'Brien
 Donna O'Connor
 Danny Ogren
 James Pancheri
 Marty Pavlovic
 Judith Peterson
 Dawn Petro
 Johanna Petruich
 Andrew Pieczyrak
 Elizabeth Pilones
 Sylvester Porras
 Dennis Powell
 Ronald Prus
 Timothy Ribble
 Jackie Roach
 Ann Sardella
 George Sauer
 Marie Schultz
 Marianne Schwartz
 William Schwartz
 Zachery Scriff
 James Secviar
 Jim Seul
 Renee Shehan
 Nick Skinner
 Laurie Slazyk
 Karen Sliwa
 Deborah Stareck
 Georgianne Suto
 Florence Stevens
 Carol Storey
 Charles Svitko
 Rose Theis
 Michele Thomas
 Rosemary Thomas
 Russ Thomas
 Gerardo Trevino
 David Trotman
 Kathie Trudgian
 Anthony Ubuane
 Tony Vanden Heuvel
 Raymond Vanderbok
 James Wachel
 Kathy Wachel
 Marilyn (Vrabel) Warda
 Mark Wein
 Ruth Williams
 Annette Wisniewski
 Stephanie Wisniewski
 Bill Wisniewski
 Dick Wright
 Cecilia Ziegler
 Cody Ziemkowski

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

An inward transformation occurs in a person who decides to follow Jesus Christ. Things change. They see the world differently, understand their journey more deeply and profoundly, have their sights fixed on eternity and union with God and hold themselves to higher standards and virtues. It requires a conscious choice to be a Christian, and this choice must be renewed at least daily. While the basic premise of Jesus' message may appear heartwarming and straightforward: love of God, neighbor, and self, the implications of doing so are challenging. The true disciple is called to live radically, and often finds themselves at odds with the world or even with those in their own homes.

Holding ourselves to higher standards comes with a price. We have to leave other things behind. It is difficult to be people of faith, hope, and love in a world often fixated with its own fulfillment and self-absorption. Justice, temperance, prudence, and fortitude require sacrifice if they are to be lived with integrity. God's ways are not ours. This becomes crystal clear to those who have enough courage to stand against the tide. Putting love into action requires that we challenge accepted modes of doing business and fight complacency. This is what makes the saints stand out as witnesses. They are simply sinners, just like us, who persevere.

People do not want to be told that they're sailing their ships in the wrong direction. Clinging to their insistence and need to be correct, they can become defensive when challenged. This can happen even with those closest to us. As much as the Gospel calls us to unity, it also can easily create division. When we love seriously, we encounter more than feelings of warmth and acceptance. "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like (St. Augustine)." Love also has the courage and honesty to tell people what they may not want to hear but need to, and model, without wavering, a life of humble, loving, and faithful service. Don't lose heart! There are many examples of faith before us and around us. If Jesus endured the voices of opposition, so too can we. There is no need to apologize for speaking the truth. ©LPI

USE EVERYTHING GOD GIVES YOU

“When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me.” ~ Erma Bombeck

Time. Talent. Treasure. These are the three hallmarks of stewardship. We are challenged to embrace stewardship to the best of our abilities as Christians.

Time. Talent. Treasure. God gives us plenty of each and He gives them to us for a reason. Some people mistakenly believe that they have been gifted with time, talent, and treasure in order to make even more for themselves. They could not be further from the truth.

God has given us all that we have not for ourselves but for others. Jesus told us that it was only in caring for our brothers and sisters that we truly do His work. God is not going to care how much we have done for ourselves. God will want to know how much we have done for others.

There are times that people do not want to do for others because they know that it comes at a cost. Doing good for others is not easy. It is not cheap. It is not quick. Sometimes doing good for others is difficult, expensive, and takes a long time. That does not mean that we should not do what is needed for others, though. That just means that we have the opportunity to show the Lord how much we love Him.

After all, God made the ultimate sacrifice for us in giving us His only Son. His Son made the ultimate sacrifice for us in dying for us. Compared to that, the cost that we incur doing good for others is negligible.

Erma Bombeck, a fantastic author and comedienne, really keyed in on the whole concept of living stewardship in her hope to face God one day and let Him know that she gave away to others everything that was entrusted to her.

It is in emptying ourselves that we truly engage in God's work. Never forget that ultimate truth: we will all be face-to-face with God one day and have to make an account of what we have done and whom we have helped.

It would not go well for us if we admitted that we never used our gifts for others but, instead, hoarded them and kept everything to ourselves. That would not please God at all. Squandering God's gifts is not how any of us are to live our lives here on earth.

Do not forget: when you give of your time, talent, or treasure to anyone, you do it for the Lord. The Lord will repay any good deed you do many times over. But don't even think about repayment. Do good for others freely and God will be pleased.

FAITH ACTION: Do your best to inventory the many talents with which God has blessed you and make a plan to share those talents with as many people as possible.

Fr. Mike

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tomorrow, August 15th, is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is usually a Holy Day of Obligation, unless, unless, that is, it falls on a Saturday or Monday. In those cases, it loses its obligatory status.

So, tomorrow, we will still celebrate the Assumption at the 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Masses but there is no obligation for the faithful to attend. You are, nonetheless, more than welcome to attend Mass for the Solemnity.



SCHOOL BEGINS THIS WEEK

Kindly keep our school administration, faculty, staff, and students in your prayers as they begin a new school year this week. Where in God's green earth did the summer go?!

Welcome back to all. I hope that your summer was filled with rest and that you are ready to begin again. There's so much to learn and so much to know. God is waiting to see you develop in your skills, in your knowledge, and in your faith.



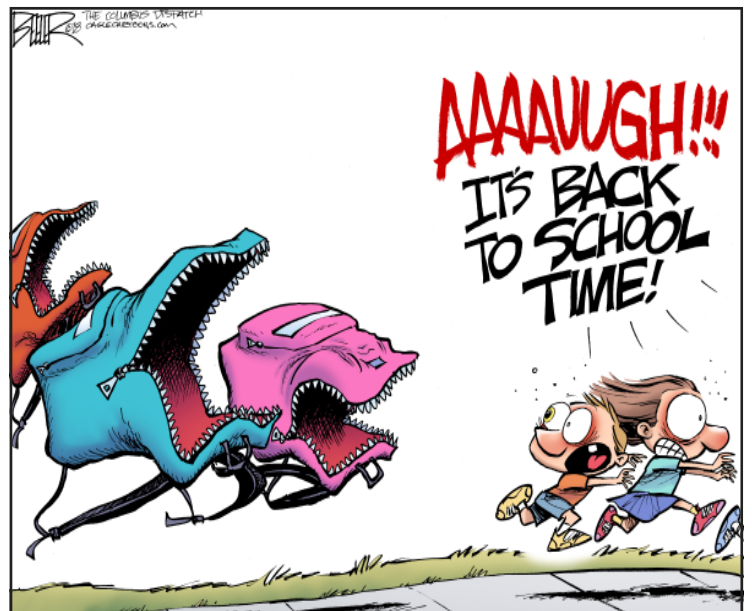
ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A bear approached a trapper in the woods and asked what he was looking for.

"I'm after a nice fur coat for myself," the trapper said. "How about you?"

"I'd like a nice breakfast", replied the bear. "I tell you what, let's go into the cave and discuss it."

They went into the bear's cave and everything worked out. In a half hour the bear had his breakfast and the trapper was in a nice fur coat!



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:

August 20: Msgr. Michael A. Petzold (1965)





Religious Education

Register Soon for Fall Classes

Contact the Religious Education Office to schedule your child's fall enrollment before classes fill.

To learn more about the Religious Education program at St. Thomas More, please contact Emily Hackett at (219) 836-8610 or ehackett@stm-school.com.

Greeters for the Week



Sunday, August 14

6:30 a.m. Mass
Main: Mary Jo Jez

8:00 a.m. Mass
Main: Paul & Jan Liszewski
Chapel: James & Nancy Kazcka

10:00 a.m. Mass
Main: Hal & Suzanne Lusk
Chapel: Tim & Amy Jevyak

Saturday, August 20

5:30 p.m. Mass
Main: Bill & Chris Retseck
Chapel: Patty Pfister

12:00 Noon Mass
Main: Pat Batchelder

Live Stream Masses

Are you tech savvy? We Need You!
Please join our Livestream Ministry!



If you are a middle or high school student, you can earn faith-based service hours by helping our parish with live-streamed Masses.

Adults are also welcome to join. It's fun and a great way to help your parish and all those who enjoy Mass from home.

Training is available.

If you are interested in sharing your talents with our parish, contact Joann Hajduch at jhajduch@stm-school.com.

Live-Streamers are Needed:

Saturday 5:30 p.m. & Sunday 10:00 a.m. Masses

Please consider joining this valuable parish ministry.

Holy Name Society

Our next meeting of the Holy Name Society will be held **Tomorrow**

Monday, August 15

All meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Weis Center.

All men of the parish are invited to join us. See you there!

Seniors of STM

Everyone, 55+ is invited to join our fun-loving group! You *do not* need to be an St. Thomas More parishioner to join and we invite all to our last summer meeting:

Wednesday, August 17

1:00 p.m. at the Weis Center

This fun, social event will include table, card and dice games, along with group activities, interactive participation and delicious refreshments.

Hopefully we'll have something for everyone.

Your Salvation Army donation would also be appreciated:

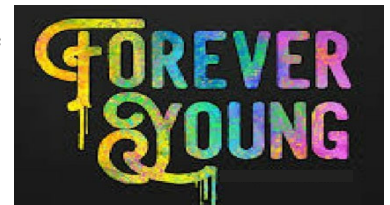
- 2 non-perishable food items or
- 2 hygiene items.

All those 55+ are welcome to attend; we hope you'll join us.

The new meeting year will begin in September.

Join us for the first meeting of the year on

Wednesday, September 7, 2022



Altar Servers

If you are a St. Thomas More School or Religious Education student, **currently in 4th grade or higher**, and are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please contact Susan Burke at (219) 322-6462 to learn more about Altar Serving at our parish.



Shop AmazonSmile

School Starts Soon! Are You Ready?



Whether you're shopping for school supplies & clothing, or just taking advantage of end-of-summer deals, don't forget to shop at AmazonSmile and help our school every time you shop. With every order on AmazonSmile, St. Thomas More School earns .05% of your purchase when you designate St. Thomas More as your charity of choice.

To order: smile.amazon.com/ch/35-0900733.

Thank you for supporting A-rated St. Thomas More School!

Altar & Rosary

Attention Past Officers & Committee Chairpersons

If you have pictures, programs, etc. relating to the history of Altar & Rosary, please drop them off at the Parish Office.

We want to assemble an accurate history of our organization and are starting off with photos & minutes recently received from

1946-1960. We are reorganizing our albums and, when finished, will be

available for everyone to enjoy at our meetings.

Thanks in advance. Contact Kaaren at 219-836-5079 for info.



St. Thomas More School




First Day of School

August 16 | **Wednesday, August 17**

Grades 3 to 8 7:45 a.m. School Office Door #1 or Bell Tower	Grades K to 8 7:45 a.m. Enter at School Office-Door #1 or Bell Tower	Preschool & Pre-K 8:30 a.m. (today only) Enter at Gym Entrance (under canopy on north side of building)
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They're Ba-ack!

For the last week, STMS teachers (and some of their little helpers) have been back in the building, setting up classrooms in preparation of welcoming their new students.

With the addition of a third kindergarten and 5th grade, we will also be welcoming several new teachers and staff members.

We know they'll find the warm, loving environment at St. Tom's welcoming and friendly and a home-away-from-home. From the School Office & development staff to the custodial and maintenance personnel, everyone has been hustling to make everything perfect for the start of the new year.



A lot has happened in our building over the summer, too! Since the first day of summer break, our school building has been in a state of construction and renovation, as we continued to update remaining classrooms and overhauled the Cafeteria and Solar Room.



New lighting, ceilings, flooring and sinks/cabinetry have been installed and worn and dated furniture has been replaced.

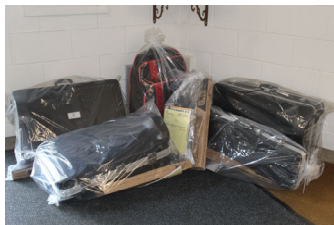
Students dining in our Cafeteria will enjoy new seating and the flooring throughout the building has been refinished to a bright shine, ready for the return of our beloved students in just a couple of days.

We can't wait to see our students again, and welcome those new to our school. We're looking forward to a great year ahead.



STM S SchoolBand

We are looking forward to re-starting the STMS band program after a brief summer break. This year, the St. Thomas More School Band will welcome approximately 30 new band students.



Delivery of new student instruments took place earlier this summer, as boxes and boxes arrived at the school.



In Co-Director, Angie Lorandos' words, "This feels like Christmas." Our sincere thanks to STMS alumni and MHS students who have been helping with the summer band program. We can't wait until the year's first concert!



St. Vincent De Paul Society

The St. Thomas More St. Vincent de Paul Society continues to provide food & utility assistance to area families.

Our thanks to all who follow in Christ's footsteps to help.

Please check expiration dates before donating.

Learn more about SVDP, or join our ministry, contact Terry at (219) 836-8610.

Food Pantry Needs:

Pasta	Rice	Canned Fruit
Pasta Sauce	Pancake Mixes	Bar Soap
Canned Pasta	Canned Stew	Toothpaste
Pork & Beans	Canned Meat	Toilet Paper
Peanut Butter	Meal Helpers	Shampoo
Jelly	Cake Mixes	Dish Soap
Boxed Potatoes	Frostings	



Congrats, Deacon Joe!

We are proud to congratulate our very own, St. Thomas More Deacon, Joseph Stodola, who recently received the prestigious Boy Scout Bronze Pelican Award.

For the past several years, Deacon Joe has been an integral part of Boy Scout Pack 542, Den 3, helping our young Scouts work their way through several religious awards, from the Light of Christ to the Parvuli Dei Awards.



His devote faith and instruction has helped these Scouts better understand the many parts of the Mass, as he gave them a behind the scenes tour of the church and the Sacristy, helping them prepare for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.



He has explained the significance of the different holy oils and incense, the different liturgical seasons, all the priests' vestments

and the meaning behind Baptism and the baptismal font.

He has explained scripture passages and made them easy to understand, and illustrated how these young men are truly the light of the world, encouraging them to continue to do God's work as he helped them complete the Blessed Father McGivney patch.

From attending Den meetings and his participation in Mass with these Scouts, he has been an integral part of their religious award completion.

He has joyfully and proudly cheered them on all along the way.

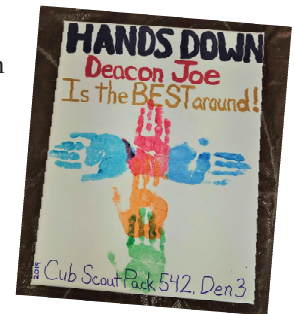
Deacon Joe's easy manner and great sense of humor has endeared him to these boys, as Deacon's faith and love continues to shine brightly in everything he does.

And for all these reasons, and more, Deacon Joe is now the recipient of the Bronze Pelican Award, presented recently to him by Bishop Robert J. McClory.



Congratulations, Deacon Joe!


Thanks for helping these boys see the light of Christ through your eyes!



CSA 2022

Impacts Our Parish & Local Community

Please give generously!

ROMAN CATHOLIC  DIOCESE OF GARY

Be Disciples • Be Missionaries
Sean Discípulos • Sean Misioneros

Demonstrate Christ's Love for Others!

Please give generously! Jesus calls us to be disciples and to be missionaries. Alone we can only touch the lives of so many and the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) allows us to minister to thousands, both Catholic and non-Catholic, through outreach and evangelization efforts.

Gifts to CSA support vocations, Catholic schools, and other faith forming ministries including evangelization and social justice efforts. Envelopes and pledge cards are available

To Give to the CSA

Please use the card from Fr. Mike's mailing,

Or give online:

dgary.org/csa.

Information can be found at all church entrances.

The St. Thomas More Parish goal for this year's CSA is **\$124,859.**

Any monies collected above our parish goal comes back to St. Thomas More and are being used to repair our bell tower.

Positions Open at St. Thomas More

St. Thomas More Parish

Our parish is seeking to fill the following positions.

Part-Time Evening/Saturday Receptionist

Responsibilities: Welcoming all who visit/call the Parish Office, provide administrative and related office services to staff and

parishioners of St. Thomas More.

Requirements:

Proficient computer skills & at least 3 years experience as a receptionist/admin assistant.

Proficiency in MS Office a must;

experience with Parish Data Systems & QuickBooks, a plus. If qualified, submit a cover letter & resume:

jobopenings@stm-church.com.

Visit: <http://www.stm-church.com/ParishReceptionist.pdf>.

Full-Time Maintenance

Responsibilities : Completing small plumbing repairs, painting, light carpentry, changing fixtures, ballasts, bulbs; small wiring jobs. Some HVAC experience preferred: able to change motors, belts, pumps, couplings and complete routine filter changes.

Must be able to operate zero turn & push lawn mower and operate plow truck for snow removal (available to plow during off hours, as needed).

Requirements: Must have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and auto insurance.

Hours: Mon to Fri 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (occasional nights and weekends, as needed). Health benefits and paid time off.

If interested, contact Mike Popovich at

mpopovich@stm-church.com or 219-836-8610 ext. 2313.



Praying For Our Parishioners

St. Thomas More parish ministries offer prayers for our parishioners.

Please send your prayer requests:

STMPrayerTeam@gmail.com.



STM Career Networking Group

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 14, 2022
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

If you need Career Assistance before September, please contact: STMCareerGroup@gmail.com

Sunday Nursery Resumes Soon

The St. Thomas More Nursery, open each Sunday during the 10:00 a.m. Mass, will resume this September.

We need volunteers! If you are a high school student, or adult, who loves children and would like to join our Nursery program, or if you would like to learn more, please contact Kaaren Mashura at (219) 836-5079.

Watch the bulletin for a start date and more details coming soon.

Conference for Single Catholics

September 16-18, 2022

Join hundreds of single Catholics from across the country.

National Conference for Single Catholics

Westfields Marriott • Chantilly, VA (DC Metro Area).

Weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, Mass, adoration, opportunities for confession, fellowship, food and more.

Register at : www.NationalCatholicSingles.com or call (512) 766-5798 for more information.

Catholic Foundation Events

2022 Red Mass

Save the Date: October 6, 2022!

Our Lady of Consolation Church • Merrillville

2022 Red Mass

and free CLE Seminar, hosted by the Catholic Foundation for Northwest Indiana, will be held

Thursday, October 6 • Our Lady of Consolation Church

Bishop McClory will celebrate Mass at 8:00 am.

The CLE seminar after Mass is "Life, Death and Taxes."

This event is open to everyone in the legal and finance community.

More info is available at www.catholicfuture.org or 219-769-9292 ext. 268. RSVP by Sept 23rd.



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
FOR NORTHWEST INDIANA
www.catholicfuture.org

Wounded Healers Grief Support

Wounded Healers Grief Support returns to St. James the Less 9640 Kennedy, Highland, IN (corner of Kennedy & 45th Street)

Wednesdays – 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Beginnings Groups:

Beginnings help those dealing with the loss of a Spouse or Significant Other • Parent, Sibling or Friend Child or Grandchild

Advanced Groups:

“Coming Back” • “Parents Moving Forward”

Next Meeting:

August 17 (Guest Speaker)

Meetings are free, non-denominational and open to all.

Fall Sessions Starting Soon

Join us as we reconvene after a short break for our Fall Session. Meetings will be on the following Wednesdays:

September 7 • September 21
October 5 • October 19
November 2 • November 16

Events in the Area...

Parade of Polka Bands Picnic!

Join the International Polka Association on Sunday, August 21 at the Hammond Mohawks Picnic Grove, 4040 Calumet, Hammond.

Doors Open at 12:30pm. Polka music from 1:00- 6:00 p.m.

Admission: \$15 at the Door.

Featuring the following Polka Bands: The Music Company, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze,

IPA Tribute Band, D-Street Band and Tri-City Drive.

Enjoy your favorite Polish foods and beverages (available to purchase).

This is a family event & all are welcome!

The IPA is a not-for-profit organization which promotes polka music and Polish heritage.

St. John Bosco Parish Picnic

All are invited to attend the St. John Bosco Parish Picnic on

Sunday, August 21 from Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Food: Polish/Mexican/American with desserts, roasted corn, soda, wine coolers and beer. Air-conditioned Bingo from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Kid's games, raffles and shaded picnic tables.

No admission fee.

Entertainment is free (Polka Band Noon-3:00 p.m./D.J. 3:00-5:00 p.m.). Nominal fees for everything else.

Bring your lawn chairs. Info: (219) 844-9027.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to deliver meals in the greater Hammond community. Contact Joan at joan@mownwi.org (219)756-3663.

Andrean Class of 1972 Reunion

Join the Andrean Class of 1972 for their 50th Class Reunion

September 23-24. Email Patti Gornick McLaughlin:

trish5191954@gmail.com for details. Visit class Facebook page.

New Polish School Starting in Merrillville

Registration for the new Margaret Ann Polish Language School is 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon on Saturday, August 20 at Our Lady of

Consolation Church, 8303 Taft in Merrillville. Classes will be Tuesday evenings from 5:30-8:00 p.m. beginning September 6 at

the church. For more information: polishschoolnwi@gmail.com or call Margaret Blachut at 219-613-5148.

AYCE Spaghetti Dinner

Please join us for our AYCE Parish Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 5-7pm. Delicious

homemade sauce & meatballs with salad, bread and dessert.

\$12/Adult • \$6 /Kids (age 6-12) • 5 & under/free. Cash bar. Pop & water for sale.

St. Stephen Martyr Church • 5920 Waite St. • Merrillville, IN

For more info: 219-980-9348