

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH



CONVENT STATION, NEW JERSEY · 973-267-5330 · WWW.STMNJ.ORG

MAY 21, 2017

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Belgian Graphics Ltd

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Morristown, NJ 07960

973-267-5330

Weekly Eucharists

Saturday 5 pm
Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm
Monday – Saturday: 8:15 am
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.
Holy Days
8:15 am, 12:10 pm, 7 pm

Parish Office Hours
Mon. - Wed, 9:30–2 pm

*Other times & days,
call to see if office
is open.*

www.stmnj.org

What's Happening?

Today

First Communion

Tuesday

Women's Guild, 7 pm

Thursday

Feast of the Ascension

Next Sunday

Peter Pence Collection

Pound A Week

**WELCOME****To all our visitors this weekend**

As a faith community, we keep in mind who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God.

Special requests for prayers at liturgy and donations made in honor of loved ones. These intentions and names of our sick are noted on the Gifts Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

Easter Collection: \$ 5835

Second Collection: \$ \$2048

Sign up for electronic giving at

stthommore.weshareonline.org

**Vivere Christus Award**

The Vivere Christus Awards acknowledge dedicated people who help build up Christ's Church. We are asking for nominations. Send the person's name to the parish office along with the reasons why this person should be considered. It should be a parishioner but their work or ministry can extend outside the parish.

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild will hold a Luncheon June 7, 12:30 at the Serenade in Chatham @ 12:30. \$40. All welcome. Contact Pat Briscoe 973 267-8276 or Bridie Murphy 973 539-5008. Open to all women.

Ice Cream

We're still looking for a few more who can help with Ice Cream Sundays this summer. A great way for parents and kids to work together.

Pastoral Council Timeline

Applications on the table in the vestibule. Deadline extended Do it soon.

June: Candidate info will be available.

June: Elections (Opportunities available for those not able to be present at election weekend.)

Announcement of selected members of the Parish Pastoral Council late June.

Holy Day Masses Thursday

Masses at 8:15, 12:10, 7 pm

Ministry to the Homebound

If you know a homebound person who would like communion and/or on a regular basis, if you are ministering in that way OR if you can visit and/or bring communion to a homebound person, please fill out the form on the info rack in the vestibule.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY *Feast of the Ascension*

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

This passage takes us back to the beginning verses of the Acts of the Apostles and sets forth the themes that Luke is going to develop throughout this, the longest book of the New Testament. His major theme is the role of the Holy Spirit, who enables the apostles to be effective witnesses to Jesus. The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times in the Acts of the Apostles.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Ephesus was an ancient city located on the western coast of what is today Turkey. Paul visited there several times. Today's passage, which is near the beginning of the letter to the Ephesians, is a prayer asking God's blessings upon that community. Many thoughts in this prayer are connected to today's feast of the Ascension.

God's Grace is Young Enough

Acts 8:5-17; 1 Peter 3:215-18; John 14:15-21

I am the Way

- Peter is writing to a community who welcomed Christ as Lord in their hearts and remained faithful by their good conduct in Christ. They have heeded what Jesus asks in the Gospel: to keep his commandments. Through their faithfulness, evil is "put to shame."
- In John's gospel, "world" refers to everything opposed to God and obedience to Jesus' commandments. The world sees neither Jesus nor the "Spirit of truth"; the world does not love; the world does not have life. Faithful disciples do. They see, love, and live because of the Father's gift of the Spirit within them. This divine indwelling is God's very love. We are to be God's love made visible, that the world may see Jesus, come to the truth, and choose to live in faithful love.

This Week's Question

For Adults:

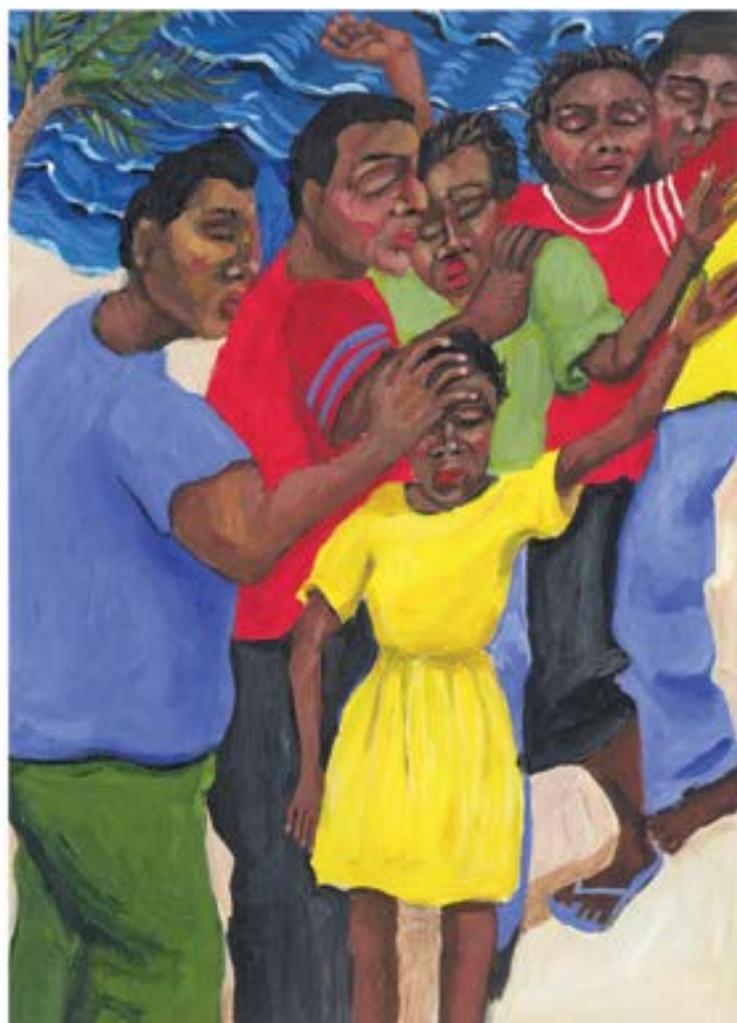
The Spirit gives us inner wisdom and strength. When have you experienced this?

For Children:

The Holy Spirit makes you strong inside. When do you need to be strong?



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Spirit of Grace and Truth

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
King of the Universe,
for you have graced us with your presence
and given us your Spirit, the Spirit
of Truth.
May we, who have been baptized by water
and the Spirit,
receive your grace and truth,
respond with hope,
and bless others with the light of your love.
And may we, anointed by the power of the
Holy Spirit,
find the peace, healing, strength, and faith
you give
as we accept your gifts.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May 21, 2017

No Longer Orphans

Today's Readings: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that he will not abandon them as orphans. For three years, they had followed him and trusted that he would show them the Truth. Each of the Twelve relied on Jesus to guide them, to demonstrate the best way to be good, loving, religious people. Now he tells them to demonstrate their love by keeping the Commandments. And he assures them that he will send the Advocate. He tells them that they need to trust what they already know, for within that *knowing*, they will have all that is necessary to live in God's love. Jesus was trying to teach the Apostles the hard lesson that they need to trust what they have learned

and what they have been living. We, too, need to take that lesson to heart.

Today's Gospel is a bit about handing on what is in the family. Every family has a talent, an attitude, or a particular trait that appears here and there throughout the family tree. Jesus tells us today that he lives on in each of us through the Spirit. Jesus lives on through a holy attitude, a helping hand, a grateful smile. Guided by his commandments, we have the Spirit coursing through our spiritual veins, and we recognize him in others, and sometimes in ourselves. He remains with us, lives through us, and we share the life of God in those familiar and holy ways of the Spirit inherited through the sacraments.

Consider Being a Member of the Parish Pastoral Council



Applications on the table in the vestibule or in the Rectory Office
Deadline extended

From the Pastoral Council:

Please consider running for the St. Thomas More Pastoral Council. As laity, we are called to serve the Church. A member of the council makes an important contribution to the Parish by providing the Pastor with advise, support and helps him cultivate ministers and activity committee personnel. The council meets five times per year. There are two three-year terms open for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020 terms. Look for a "Candidate Nomination Form" in the vestibule of the church soon; complete one and email to ossela@optonline.net or drop off at the Parish office by May 22. The forms will be condensed into candidate blurbs, which will be published for two Sundays in June with an election at the end of June.



Peter's Pence Collection

Next weekend we will take up the annual Peter's Pence Collection. Bishop Serratelli reminds us that our participation in this special collection assists in the charitable work of our Holy Father as he reaches out to those who are marginalized and struggling around the globe. Through this collection, the Church is able to support victims of war, natural disasters, and other difficult situations.

The bishop asks that we be a beacon of hope to those suffering in the world. I ask you to please be as generous as possible next weekend.

Congratulations

After helping seniors graduate at FDU for many years, **Theresa Tomeo** attended her own graduation this Tuesday. Great job.

Vocationist **Fr. Louis Caputo** who celebrates mass here during the week is celebrating his fiftieth anniversary this month. Auguri per il suo anniversario.



DOESN'T SOUND LIKE JESUS!
WHY THE FUSS?

ANNIVERSARY COCKTAIL PARTY
MOVED TO MADISON HOTEL
FRIDAY JUNE 16, 6-9 PM



Not at all Jesus' fault. Actually, nobody's fault. When we looked at the total cost of the event which included rentals of tables, chairs, tent, etc., a liquor license, bartenders, music, etc., the cost would have been high even with a parish subsidy. The Madison Hotel offered their facilities on an open night and we thought it would be a perfect alternative. Plus, we wouldn't have to worry about rain or mosquitos. So, we moved the event on day early to June 16, from 6 to 9 pm. Delicious food, open bar, an enjoyable evening to celebrate ourselves as a parish for fifty years.

Tickets for the evening are \$60. This is considerably less than the cost per person. We wanted to keep it as affordable as possible and be able to celebrate with a majority of our parish family.

Tickets will be sold after masses and in the parish office. You can also send an email to secretary@stmnj.org to reserve a place and then place payment in the next week's collection in an envelope with your name and marked "Cocktail Party."



We still have our parish family picnic scheduled for September. Some have suggested we have an outdoor parish mass at the picnic to close our celebrations for the year.