

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

4 Convent Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

973- 267-5330

www.stmnj.org

info@stmnj.org

We exist for one reason: to come to know and be formed by the Word of God and the Message of Jesus. When we gather in prayer and worship, in service and community, we assemble as disciples and friends with the Lord in our midst. Rooted in our Roman Catholic tradition, we are proud of our parish heritage and hopeful for our future.

First Sunday of Lent- March 10, 2019

Parish Staff

Fr. Thomas Fallone, J.D.
Pastor
tfallone@stmnj.org

Fr. Joe Davis
Weekend Assistant

Pat Schell
Parish Secretary
secretary@stmnj.org

Mark Davis
Music - Organist

Frank Miles
Trustee

Mary Murphy
Trustee

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm *(Please note there will be no 7 pm Mass on holiday weekends.)*

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday 8:15 am

Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm; Holy Day 8:15 am and 12:10 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance)

Saturday: 3:30 pm or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Every First Friday of the Month following the 8:15 am Mass and concluding with Benediction at Noon

Additional Sacraments

Baptism: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least 8 weeks in advance of the desired date.

Marriage: Please call or email the Parish Office. Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance of the desired date.

Join the St. Thomas More Family

New parishioners can register at any time! Please call or stop by the Parish Office between 9 am - 2 pm, Monday through Wednesday, or send an email to info@stmnj.org. We'd love to welcome you!!



**Blast From the Past(or)
First Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2019**

In their song, 'Horse with No Name,' the band America sang, *in the desert, you can remember your name....* How on earth could a song like that ever become a number one hit? Well, the year was 1972, so there's that. Such was the period of mind-altering experimentation in questionable pop music. It was the era of Watergate, anti-war protests and Easy-Bake ovens actually marketed as children's toys (Would you consume a brownie made by a five-year-old? Discuss). This was a time when Marlon Brando made 'an offer he can't refuse,' and when Frank Perdue said that it takes a 'tough man to make a tender chicken.' This was a year when you could actually purchase a Ford Pinto, which made an explosive debut in the U.S. automotive market (Thank you, I'll be here all week.). Ok, I'll stop. Let's get back to the song, and to the Gospel, of course. The harsh desert forces you to think in order to survive: Who are you, really? That's why Lent begins here. Our identity is often crowded out in the noise of incessant virtual reality and screen time. The desert is free of such amenities. When we are stripped down to our weakest and most vulnerable, temptation is most formidable (I always desire a meat-lovers pizza on Ash Wednesday. Coincidence?). Though He knows our experience, Jesus shows us not to argue with the devil. You can't dialogue with evil, and so Jesus changes the subject by focusing on His relationship with His Father. That's the purpose of Lent. The devil tries to get Jesus, and each of us, to use our God-given powers in ways for which they were not meant. We're not to engage in this battle but instead recall who we are as children of God and as heirs to the King. Admittedly, 'Sister Golden Hair' is a much better song, but we remember our name in the desert. We are not called here to die all alone. We are summoned to the desert for intimacy with Jesus Christ. That's who you are. Lent well.

God Bless you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



***Thank You for Your Stewardship of Time,
Talent and Treasure!***

Weekly Collection for February 23-24: \$6,720.00



2018 Contribution Statements

2018 Contribution Statements are available near the collection envelopes in the vestibule of the Church. If you'd like a copy emailed or mailed to you or have any questions, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you!



Monday, March 11: Saint John Ogilvie

8:15 am- William Dolan

Tuesday, March 12: Blessed Angela Salawa

8:15 am- Margaret Noto

Wednesday, March 13: Saint Leander of Seville

8:15 am- Rosemarie Raiola

Thursday, March 14: Saint Maximilian

8:15 am- Emma Grassia

Friday, March 15: Saint Louise de Marillac

8:15 am- Kitty Riepe

Saturday, March 16: Saint Clement Mary Hofbauer

8:15 am- Fr. Arthur Colaiacovo

5:00 pm- Jean Bistriz

Sunday, March 17: Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 am- Thomas Briscoe

11:00 am- Donna Schaeffer

7:00 pm- Anselmo Dias

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week in remembrance of Thomas Briscoe.



Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in praying for all who are ill in our community, and in a particular way for Phil Barrett, Mary Murphy, Madeline McCloskey and Brian Smith. May God bring them and their families His healing, comfort and peace. If you would like to have your name or that of a loved one included in the request for healing prayers in our weekly bulletin, please send an email to smarshall@stmnj.org.



Keep up with all of the Happenings at STM

By signing up at flocknote.com/STMNJ or texting STMNJ to 84576, you'll be able to keep up with the latest news at our parish, from upcoming events, to schedules for special days, to announcements about inclement weather closings. You can choose if you'd like to receive emails or text messages (or both) and can opt out at any time. Help us stay in touch by joining Flocknote today!



How Well Do You Know Saint Thomas More? **Prayer for Good Humor**

by St. Thomas More

Grant me, O Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest.

Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humor to maintain it.

Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good and that doesn't frighten easily at the sight of evil, but rather finds the means to put things back in their place.

Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumblings, sighs and laments, nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called "I."

Grant me, O Lord, a sense of good humor.

Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others.



St. Thomas More's Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration - Last Chance to Sign Up!!

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Party will be next Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 6-10 pm at the VFW Hall at 45 Tabor Road in Morris Plains, complete with music provided by our favorite DJ, Alan, and delicious, Irish food. Admission is \$35.00/person, with kids under 14 free. To join us, please place your payment in one of the envelopes in the vestibule of the Church, indicate your name and the number of people in your party, and drop it in the collection basket or in the mailbox outside the Parish Office. Please make checks payable to "St. Thomas More Parish." Hope to see you there!



Mark Davis's Music Ministry Thoughts [The Gateway to Boredom]

"Our Roving Reporter was seeking the answer to one of the GREAT QUESTIONS, and went to **The National Institoot for Answers**. There was a sign on the door: **We're Closed. Go Away!** He next went to Dr. I.M.A. Putz, Expert in the Art & Science. 'Dr. Putz, why do Organists wear organ shoes?' 'Well, this is a Deep Subject, requiring Deep Thought.' Our Intrepid Investigator realized this might take a while. 'Not really, but right now I'm busy researching Funny Owls on You-toob. Come back next week...' [to be continued]"



Resources for Your Lenten Journey



Spend your time with Christ in the Gospel this Lent alongside Bishop Barron and the Word on Fire community. Receive free, daily Gospel reflections in your inbox every morning by signing up at: <https://www.lentreflections.com/>.



Dynamic Catholic is once again offering its "Best Lent Ever" series. It's a free email program that will guide you on an incredible journey toward the-best-version-of-yourself. Each day during Lent you'll discover ways to transform your life in forty days. Sign up is easy at: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever>.



Join our faith community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl in the vestibule of the Church. During the 40 days of Lent, we will encounter the needs of the world. And don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app!



Welcome Home to Healing

All Catholic Churches in Morris, Sussex and Passaic counties (including St. Thomas More) will have their doors open for Confession every Monday night from March 11 to April 8 between 7 and 8:30 p.m. as part of the Welcome Home to Healing program. In his letter inviting all to participate, the Bishop wrote, "Like the Prodigal Son barely able to confess his sins, we at times are ashamed and even afraid to name those evils that separate us from God who loves us so much. But the Father is not ashamed to recognize us as his own son or daughter. He longs to wrap his arms around us. He is waiting to welcome us home." All are welcome to participate in this beautiful Sacrament this Lent!