

Church of Saint Thomas More

65 East 89th Street (east of Madison Avenue)

New York City, New York 10128

December 14, 2014

PARISH OFFICE (212) 876-7718
FAX (212) 831-5756
E-MAIL: StmParish@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.ThomasMoreChurch.org
FACEBOOK: Church of St. Thomas More

CLERGY

Rev. Kevin V. Madigan, Pastor
Rev. Edwin Diaz, Associate Pastor

STAFF

Edward Litcher, Business Manager
StmBusiness@gmail.com
Margaret Peet, Development
Sharon McKenna, Sacristan
Mr. Christopher Candela, O.P., Director of Music
StmMusicOffice@gmail.com

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 am and 12:15 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am and 12:15 pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday thru Friday
12:00 pm - 12:10 pm (before Mass)
Saturday 5:00 – 5:30 pm

BAPTISM

1:00 pm on Sunday
(Arrangements must be made in advance)

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding

VISITS TO HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Our clergy are happy to visit.
Call the parish office to arrange.

Parish Trustees

Christopher Baldwin
Michael Poulos

Parish Council President

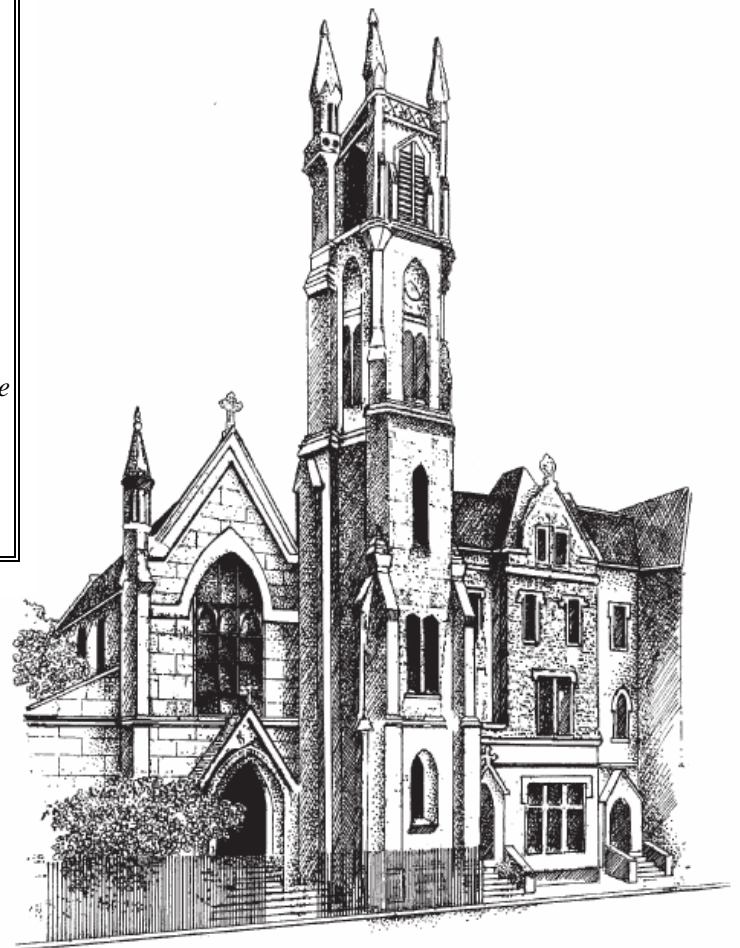
Elizabeth Williams

Head Usher

John F.R. Smilgin, III

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening: 5:45 p.m.
Sunday Morning: 8:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. (Family Mass)
Families and children are encouraged to attend the Family Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Afternoon: 12:00 p.m. (Choral Mass)
Sunday Evening: 5:45 p.m.



Church of St. Thomas More

December 14, 2014

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Theme/Call To Worship

As we enter the Third Sunday of Advent, we are reminded to stay focused on the words of John the Baptist. "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord.'"

Introduction To The Word

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-1: Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

I Thessalonians 5:16-24: In the second reading, we hear Paul's concluding words to his First Letter to the Thessalonians. Paul implores the Christians in the city of Thessalonica to "rejoice always" and constantly "give thanks" to God for Jesus Christ. He also offers up additional advice to the congregation: "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil."

John 1:6-8, 19-28: The Gospel reading reveals some of the original reactions to John the Baptist. The Jerusalem priests and Levites were sent to determine, first and foremost, if John was the long-awaited Messiah. Once it was established that he was not, they then inquired if he was Elijah or the Prophet—two figures from Israel's history foretold as God's messengers (see Dt 18:15, 18 and 2 Kgs 2:11). John claimed to be neither Elijah returned nor the Prophet predicted by Moses. Out of exasperation, the religious leaders of Jerusalem asked John the final pointed question: "Who are you?" John acknowledged that he is the one prophesied by Isaiah. Still not satisfied, the Pharisees then questioned John's authority to baptize. John the Baptist's response ("I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie") reflects John the Evangelist's theology that runs throughout the Gospel: "the world" and non-believers do not recognize that Jesus is the Word made flesh (Jn 1:14).

Adapted from Liturgical Publications Inc, Connect! Uniting Word & World, Dr. Daniel J. Scholz

At St. Thomas More This Week

| <u>Date:</u> | <u>Event:</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 12/14 | Christmas Brunch after the 10am Mass Baptism | 1:00 pm |
| 12/15 | Reconciliation Monday A.A. Meeting | 4pm to 8pm 6:30 pm |
| 12/16 | Leisure Club Lunch after the 12:15 Mass Religious Ed Class A.A. Meeting | 5:00 pm 6:30 pm |
| 12/17 | Christian Meditation - Chapel Town Hall Meeting | 6:00 pm 7:00 pm |
| 12/18 | A.A. Meeting | 6:30 pm |
| 12/19 | A.A. Meeting Tapestry Concert Communion and Liberation | 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm |

Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

| <i>Dec. 14</i> | <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>Lector</i> |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Sat 5:45 pm | Fr. Diaz | Nick Farnham |
| Sun 8:30 am | Fr. Diaz | Louisa Martin |
| Sun 10:00 am | Fr. Madigan | Osborne Family |
| Sun 12:00 pm | Fr. Diaz | Nilsa Santiago |
| Sun 5:45 pm | Fr. Madigan | Jacqueline Ackerina |

| <i>Dec. 21</i> | <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>Lector</i> |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Sat 5:45 pm | Fr. Madigan | The Rosses |
| Sun 8:30 am | Fr. Madigan | Mary Ellen McEvily |
| Sun 10:00 am | Fr. Diaz | Morriss Family |
| Sun 12:00 pm | Fr. Madigan | Jacqueline Ackerina |
| Sun 5:45 pm | Fr. Diaz | Jim Sterling |

TOWN HALL MEETING

St. Thomas More Church
Wednesday, Dec. 17th,
at 7:00pm - to discuss
Cardinal Dolan's proposal that
St. Thomas More be merged with St.
Ignatius Loyola. **(Note: the Cardinal
will NOT be in attendance)**

*Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I will
say, Rejoice.*

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE
FOR WEEK OF
DECEMBER 14 – DECEMBER 20**

Mon. Dec. 15

8:00 William P. Griffo (D)

* 12:15 Maria & Joseph Muccino (D)

Tues. Dec. 16

8:00 Robelyn Schrade - James (D)

* 12:15 Elizabeth & Joseph Hughes (D)

Wed. Dec. 17

8:00 John Slattery (D)

* 12:15 Loretta Barrett (D)

Thurs. Dec. 18

8:00 Donald Wachsmith (D)

* 12:15 Grant Marks (L)

Fri. Dec. 19

8:00 Patrick & Nuala O'Sullivan (L)

* 12:15 Patrick & Nuala O'Sullivan (L)

Sat. Dec. 20

8:00 Josephine Terzaghi (D)

* 12:15 Jayne Wrightsman (L)

Sunday Vigil

5:45 Frank Leahy (D)

* **Rosary said after the 12:15 Mass**



WEEKDAY BIBLE READING

12/15 Mon: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27

12/16 Tues: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

12/17 Wed: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

12/18 Thurs: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

12/19 Fri: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

12/20 Sat: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Christian Meditation

December 17th – 6:00pm

Location: St. Thomas More - Chapel

65 East 89th Street – Manhattan

Group Facilitator: **Donald Main**

415-668-1430 - costmny@christianmeditation.us

Sunday Collection – December 07, 2014

Regular Collection - \$11,136.69

Immaculate Conception – \$1,103.00

Weekly Expenses - \$17,199.53

Adult Attendance – 493

Parish Pay

DONATE

Please consider joining Parish Pay to help you maintain your economic connection to your parish when you are away from home. To join the Parish Pay system, visit the [St. Thomas More](http://St.ThomasMore) website and click the Donate button located on our home page.

Do you like to sing? The Music Department of St. Thomas More would like to hear from parishioners who might be interested in dedicating their talents to sing chorally. Music reading ability is desirable as well as a clear voice with a good sense of pitch and the ability to blend with others. For more information, contact Christopher Candela, Director of Music by e-mail at STMMusicOffice@gmail.com

Save the Date

MoreMusic

Tapestry Choir

In the Church of St. Thomas More

Friday, December 19th – 7:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 – at the door

Join the St. Thomas More E-Group

Send an email with your Name and the words

[Join the E-Group](mailto:stmbusiness@gmail.com) (Currently 308 members) to stmbusiness@gmail.com receive the weekly Bulletin

and other important information.

**This Advent, Prepare your
Heart for the Peace of Christ**

Reconciliation Monday

Monday – December 15th

Confessions will be heard
in the Church of St Thomas More
(and in each of the Parishes of the
Archdiocese of New York)
from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm



Parish Council Advent Event Calendar

The season of Advent is marked with a number of events at our parish. Please join in the celebrations and bring a friend or two to re-engage in our faith at this holy and joyous time of year!

- **Dec 1 - 16:** STM's Children's Toy Drive - bring a new, unwrapped toy or gift card in support of Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Services
- **Dec 13 - 14:** STM's Christmas Food Drive in support of NY Common Pantry
- **Dec 14:** Christmas Tree Lighting and Children's Ornament Making during a special Family Coffee Hour with a visit from Santa
- **Dec 19:** MoreMusic Concert - Tapestry Choir
- **Dec 21:** Family Coffee Hour
- **Dec 28:** Family Coffee Hour

STM's popular note cards and paintings by young girls from India rebuilding their lives away from prostitution will be available for sale during the Nov 30 - Dec 21 Family Coffee Hours.

This Sunday's Special Collection

Our annual archdiocesan collection for those sisters and brothers who are in their senior years, affords us an opportunity to offer them our love and support by helping to provide for their needs. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Annual Merry Tuba Christmas

FREE TO ALL!!!!

The Rink at Rockefeller Center on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 3:30 pm
The tubists of all ages will line up under the great Christmas tree to play Christmas carols and other crowd favorites and fill the area with the organ-line sound of low brass. Spectators will be encouraged to become an important part of the concert by singing along with the Christmas carols and famous songs.

35th Annual A City Singing at Christmas

Thursday, December 18, 2014 7:00 p.m.

Featuring

St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir
The Young People's Chorus of New York City
New York City Master Chorale
The Cathedral Organ
New York Symphonic Brass

Celebrate this joyful time of the year with traditional and contemporary Christmas hymns and carols!

General Seating in the Cathedral is free and open to the public.

* Due to construction inside as part of Restore St. Patrick's Cathedral, the number of seats is limited. Please arrive early to ensure seating.

Special Christmas Mass Schedule

Wednesday, December 24

4:00PM Family Mass with Choir
Blessing of the Christmas Crèche
6:00PM Mass with Choir
10:00PM Mass with Choir

Note: the 10:00PM Mass will be the last Christmas Eve Mass.

*There will not be a
12:00AM Midnight Mass*

Thursday, December 25

8:30AM, 10:00AM and 12:00PM
(All masses with music)

*No evening Mass on
Christmas Day.*

