

# Church of Saint Thomas More

65 East 89<sup>th</sup> Street (east of Madison Avenue)

New York City, New York 10128

December 21, 2014

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

## CLERGY

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

## STAFF

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

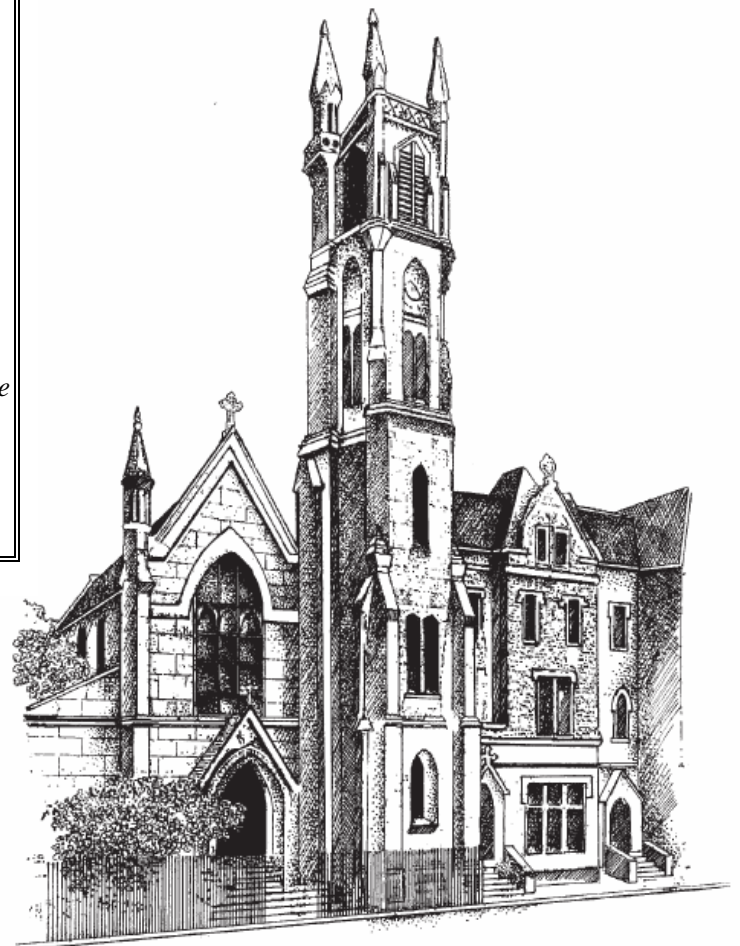
Elizabeth Williams

## 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 21, 2014

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### Theme/Call To Worship

As we come to the fourth and final Sunday of Advent, the readings call us to enter more deeply into the mystery of the Incarnation. The readings reveal to us God's work of salvation in the history of Israel and in the life of Mary.

#### Introduction To The Word

**2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16:** The first reading from the Second Book of Samuel contains the "Davidic covenant" a major part of the lens through which Israel would eventually envision its Messiah and its messianic age.

In today's reading, we hear that the context for the covenant between God and David was grounded in David's concern for the "ark of God" (also referred to as the "Ark of the Covenant"). David's concern to build "a house of cedar" for the Ark is grounded in his sincere attempt to honor the Ark—and by extension, God—and all the blessings it had bestowed upon Israel. But God sends the prophet Nathan to redirect David's energy and focus. Rather than David building an everlasting house for the Ark, it is God who would be building an everlasting house and kingdom for David and his descendants. Herein lies the heart of the covenant that God established with David. The earliest believers in Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God saw that, through the birth of Mary's Son, God fulfilled his covenantal promise and pledge to David.

**Romans 16:25-27:** The second reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans is a wonderful summary of Paul's Gospel message. In this short hymn of praise or doxology, Paul speaks of the "revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages ... made known to all nations." That revelation to which Paul refers is Jesus Christ, and that mystery is God's plan of salvation to save all people, Jews and Gentiles alike.

**Luke 1:26-38:** The Gospel reading for today is the angel Gabriel's annunciation to Mary of the upcoming birth of her son, Jesus. Notice that Gabriel speaks to the terms of the covenant that God established with David (nearly one thousand years earlier, around 1000 BC) being fulfilled in the birth of Jesus.

*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>
12/21	Baptism	1:00 pm
12/22	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
12/23	<b>Leisure Club</b>	
	<b>Christmas Lunch after the 12:15 Mass</b>	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
12/25	<b>Christmas - Parish Office Closed</b>	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
12/26	<b>Boxing Day – Parish Office Closed</b>	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm

### Join the St. Thomas More E-Group

Send an email with your Name and the words Join the E-Group (Currently 317 members) to [stmbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:stmbusiness@gmail.com) receive the weekly Bulletin and other important information

<p><b>Sunday Collection – December 14, 2014</b>  <b>Regular Collection - \$10,773.7</b>  <b>Religious Retirement Fund – \$3,356.67</b>  <b>Weekly Expenses - \$14,600.68</b>  <b>Adult Attendance – 575</b></p>
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### Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

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

<b>Dec. 28</b>	<b>Celebrant</b>	<b>Lector</b>
Sat 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	Nick Farnham
Sun 8:30 am	Fr. Diaz	Louisa Martin
Sun 10:00 am	Fr. Madigan	Branche Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Diaz	Bob Burke
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Madigan	Chris Baldwin

*For ever I will sing the  
goodness of the Lord.*

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST  
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE  
FOR WEEK OF  
DECEMBER 21 – DECEMBER 27**

Mon. Dec. 22

8:00 Roberto Arquello (D)

\* 12:15 Edelberta Gomez (D)

Tues. Dec. 23 *St. John of Kanty*

8:00 Jayne Wrightsman (L)

\* 12:15 Maria Czechowicz (D)

Wed. Dec. 24

8:00 Seton Fell Holt (D)

\* 12:15 The Arditi & Imperato Families

***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.***

Fri. Dec. 26 *St. Stephen the First Martyr*

8:00 Marina Livanos & Family (L)

\* 12:15 Christopher Begley (D)

Sat. Dec. 27 *St. John*

8:00 May E. Rooney (D)

\* 12:15 Marina Dominguez (D)

***Sunday Vigil***

5:45 F. Peter & Sabrina G. O'Hara (L)

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

**WEEKDAY BIBLE READING**

**12/22** Mon: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**12/23** Tues: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

**12/24** Wed: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;  
Lk 1:67-79

**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;  
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

**Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

**12/25** Thurs: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6;  
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

**12/26** Fri: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

**12/27** Sat: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Christian Meditation**

During the Holiday Season, the Christian Meditation group will take a short break and resume on Wednesday January 7<sup>th</sup> at – 6:00pm in the St. Thomas More Foley Chapel.

Until the group sessions resume Donald encourages each member of the group to continue their private meditation and wishes each member of the St. Thomas More Community a wonderful and peaceful Christmas Season.

**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](#) 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](mailto:STMMusicOffice@gmail.com)

**Sunday Coffee Hour:** Volunteer for this important Community Service. We extend our thanks to our volunteer **Peter Manice** for hosting this gathering, which is a wonderful way for parishioners to meet and get to know one another as well as to share a sweet and a cup of coffee or apple juice for the children. We look forward to meeting you there **after the 10:00 am and Noon Masses.**