

Church of Saint Thomas More

65 East 89th Street (east of Madison Avenue)

New York City, New York 10128

December 28, 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

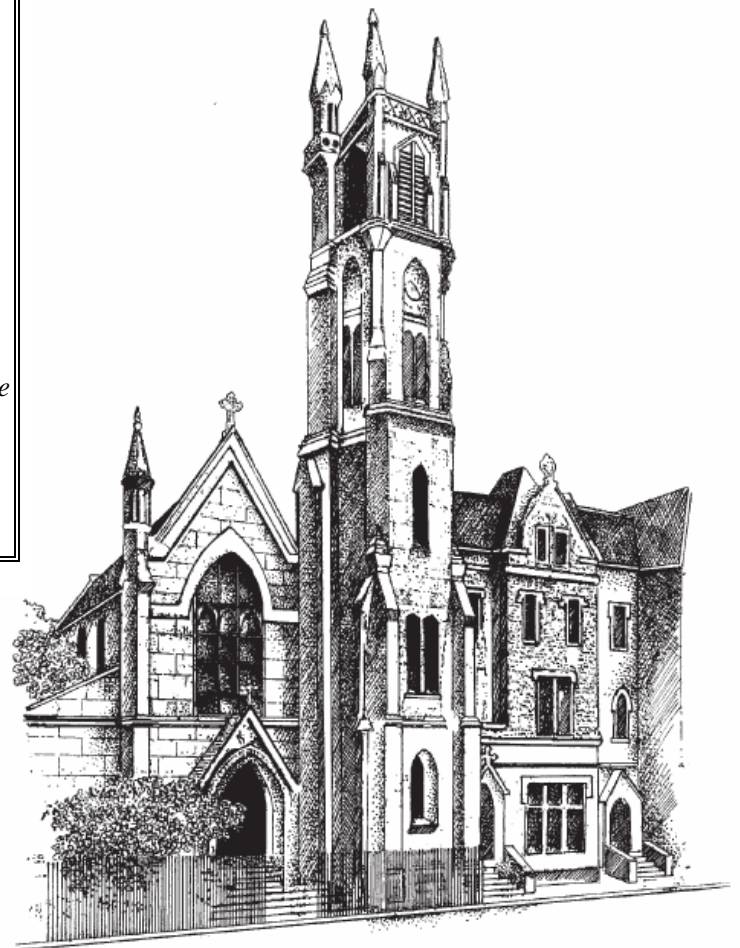
Elizabeth Williams

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 28, 2014

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Theme/Call To Worship

The readings for the feast of the Holy Family draw our attention to Abraham and Sarah, as well as Mary and Joseph. These stories teach us that in the midst of their struggles as a family, God's divine providence is present

Introduction To The Word

Gn 15: 1-6, 21: 1-3: The first reading from the Book of Genesis conflates two separate stories about Abraham creating a single short story about the first patriarchal family in the Old Testament: Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. At the time of Abraham's discussion with the Lord, Abraham was at least seventy-five-years-old, and his wife, Sarah, was sixty-five-years-old. In the ancient world, a childless couple carried much burden and pain, commonly believing they were cursed by the gods of fertility. The Lord's pledge to Abraham ("Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so shall your descendants be"), on the surface, surely seemed absurd, given their barren state. Yet, "Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness." In the storyline of the Old Testament, Abraham is the first person to explicitly express *faith* in God.

Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19: By faith Abraham and Sarah were blessed with Isaac, and through him, many descendants because they trusted in God's promise and believed in what they could not see. We see that faith, trust and prayer bring forth God's miracles in our lives.

Luke 2: 22-40: The Gospel reading from Luke narrates events surrounding the purification ritual of the infant Jesus (required of newborn Israelite males) in the Temple in Jerusalem. As law-abiding Jews, Joseph and Mary followed the precepts of the Mosaic law, offering sacrifice to the Lord in thanksgiving for the birth of their Son after the prescribed period of purification. Most of Luke's account of the presentation of Jesus centers on the words of Simeon and the prophetess Anna, who were both Spirit-filled. Simeon, in particular, foreshadows for Mary and Joseph the impact that Jesus will have on the world ("Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel") and on them ("And you yourself a sword will pierce").

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

At St. Thomas More This Week

Date:	Event:	Time
12/28	Baptism	1:00 pm
12/29	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
12/30	No Leisure Club Lunch	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
01/01	New Year's Day- Parish Office Closed	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
01/02	First Friday	
	Exposition & Benediction after 12:15 Mass	
	A.A. Meeting	6:30 pm
	Communion & Liberation	7:00 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 receive the weekly Bulletin
and other important information

<p>Sunday Collection – December 21, 2014 Regular Collection - \$13,782.37 Weekly Expenses - \$16,667.49 Adult Attendance – 964</p>

Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

Dec. 28	Celebrant	Lector
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

Jan. 04	Celebrant	Lector
Sat 5:45 pm	Fr. Madigan	The Rosses
Sun 8:30 am	Fr. Madigan	TBD
Sun 10:00 am	Fr. Diaz	Bednar Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Madigan	Nilsa Santiago
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	Jim Sterling

***Blessed are those who
fear the Lord and walk
in his ways.***

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE
FOR WEEK OF
DECEMBER 28 – JANUARY 03**

Mon. Dec. 29 *St. Thomas Becket*

8:00 Nicholas Katsouros (D)

* 12:15 Jan Szczepankowski (D)

Tues. Dec. 30

8:00 Laura T. Murphy (L)

* 12:15 Robert Mockler (D)

Wed. Dec. 31 *St. Sylvester I*

8:00 Alexander Mezo II (D)

* 12:15 Patricia Lynch Reiss (L)

Thurs. Jan. 01 ***Parish Office Closed***
Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God

8:00 Thomas Durnin (L)

* 12:15 Sarah Peyron Murphy (L)

Fri. Jan 02

Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 Marilou Goeb (D)

* 12:15 Anthony Declemente (D)

Sat. Dec. 27 *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:00 Nicholas Katsouros (D)

* 12:15 Maureen Hennessy (D)

Sunday Vigil

5:45 Regina, Louisa & Manuela Gomez (D)

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

WEEKDAY BIBLE READING

12/29 Mon: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

12/30 Tues: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

12/31 Wed: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

01/01 Thurs: Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

01/02 Fri: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

01/03 Sat: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34

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.

Christian Meditation

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

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

Sunday Coffee Hour: Volunteer for this important Community Service. We extend our thanks to our volunteer **Paula Viscovich** 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 Mass**.

January 4th Special Collection

The Catholic University of America is the only one founded by the US bishops and chartered by the Vatican. Because of this, this university belongs to each of us and we **each** have a share in the education of the future leaders of our Church. Your contribution will help many students to have access to quality academic and spiritual programs. Also, through the Catholic Communications Campaign the bishops' conference is able to fund the production of spiritual and educational programs for radio and television, and half of your contribution will remain in New York to assist our own Office of Communications.

Assuring you of my gratitude for your participation in these two important collections and with prayerful best wishes for a holy, healthy and happy new year, I am.

Faithfully in Christ
Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York

Next Sunday – January 4th
after the 5:45 Mass, we will have our parish
monthly Cocktail Hour. Adults of all ages
and their guests are welcome to attend.
No need for reservations.