

Church of Saint Thomas More

65 East 89th Street (east of Madison Avenue)

New York City, New York 10128

March 01, 2015

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

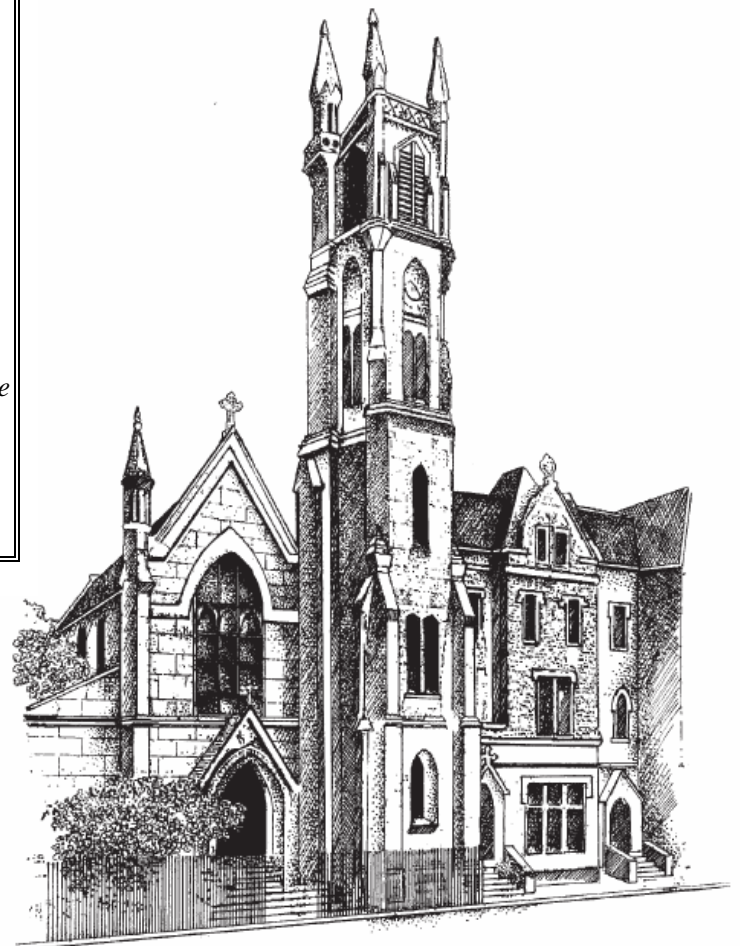
Elizabeth Williams

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

March 01, 2015

Second Sunday of Lent

Theme/Call To Worship

The readings for the Second Sunday of Lent teach us the importance of listening to and trusting in the word of God. In doing so, we become God's "chosen ones."

Introduction To The Word

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18: The first reading from the Book of Genesis is the story of Abraham's near sacrifice of his beloved son, Isaac. The opening sentence ("God put Abraham to the test") sets the context for the power of this story. The "test" was Abraham's depth of faith in God and whether Abraham would obey God's command, no matter how difficult. This story became key for the early Christians to understand Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross as the final atonement for all sin.

Romans 8:31b-34: The second reading is a short excerpt from Paul's Letter to the Romans. From the early Church Fathers to contemporary Christian theologians, Romans is widely regarded as Paul's most profound letter. The message in this section of the letter is clear enough: as "chosen ones," we have both God on our side, who loves us so much as to give his Son to us, and we have Jesus on our side, who intercedes for us to God in heaven.

Mark 9:2-10: The Gospel reading is the story of Jesus' transfiguration before the disciples. At the Transfiguration, God then tells the three disciples, "Listen to him." For the original apostles and for us Christians today, this becomes the central challenge in living out our faith. Jesus' words require us to think and act deeply and passionately about our relationships with God, self, and others. Listening to Jesus and trusting his message of salvation is not easy, but it does help us understand what it means to be God's "chosen ones."

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> |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| 03/01 | Baptism | 1:00 pm |
| 03/02 | CHADD | 5:55 pm |
| | A.A. Meeting | 6:30 pm |
| 03/03 | Leisure Club Lunch after the 12:15 Mass | |
| | Religious Education | 5:00 pm |
| | A.A. Meeting | 6:30 pm |
| 03/04 | Christian Meditation | 6:00 pm |
| 03/05 | A.A. Meeting | 6:30 pm |
| 03/06 | First Friday | |
| | Exposition & Benediction after 12:15 Mass | |
| | A.A. Meeting | 6:30 pm |

Leisure Club Luncheon

Next Luncheon – March 03, 2015

Reminder: The Lunch will be served PROMPTLY at 12:45pm immediately following the 12:15pm Mass

Alert: In inclement weather please call the Rectory at 212-876-7718 (on Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning) to find out if the Tuesday Luncheon has been cancelled

Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

| <i>Mar. 01</i> | <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>Lector</i> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Sat 5:45 pm | Fr. Madigan | The Rosses |
| Sun 8:30 am | Fr. Madigan | Jim Dillon |
| Sun 10:00 am | Fr. Diaz | Morriss Family |
| Sun 12:00 pm | Fr. Madigan | Bob Burke |
| Sun 5:45 pm | Fr. Diaz | Rory Kelleher |
| <i>Mar. 08</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 | Branche Family |
| Sun 12:00 pm | Fr. Diaz | Nilsa Santiago |
| Sun 5:45 pm | Fr. Madigan | Jim Sterling |

Join the St. Thomas More E-Group

Send an email with your Name and the words **Join the E-Group** (Currently 338 members) to stmbusiness@gmail.com receive the weekly Bulletin and other important information

Sunday Collection – Feb. 22, 2015
 Regular Collection - \$10,751.32
 Weekly Expenses - \$17,070.37
 Attendance – 663

***I will walk before the Lord,
 in the land of the living.***

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE
FOR WEEK OF
MARCH 01 – MARCH 07**

Mon. Mar. 02

8:00 Joseph Peter Lyons (D)

* 12:15 Anthony Declemente (D)

Tues. Mar. 03 *St. Katharine Drexel*

8:00 Marie Guadalupe Vargas (L)

* 12:15 Ramon Robles (D)

Wed. Mar. 04 *St. Casimir*

8:00 Ernest Prete (D)

* 12:15 Mae E Rooney (D)

Thurs. Mar. 05

8:00 Mae E Rooney (D)

* 12:15 Mae E Rooney (D)

Fri. Mar. 06 *Day of Abstinence*

World Day of Prayer

8:00 Mae E Rooney (D)

* 12:15 Owen Ames Murphy (L)

Sat. Mar. 07 *SS. Perpetua & Felicity*

8:00 Mae E Rooney (D)

* 12:15 Mae E Rooney (D)

Sunday Vigil

5:45 Mae E Rooney (D)

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



WEEKDAY BIBLE READING

03/02 Mon: Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

03/03 Tues: Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

03/04 Wed: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

03/05 Thurs: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

03/06 Fri: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a;
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

03/07 Sat: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Christian Meditation

March 4th – 6:00pm

Location: St. Thomas More - Chapel
65 East 89th Street – Manhattan

Group Facilitator: **Donald Main**

415-668-1430 -

costmny@christianmeditation.us

Sunday Coffee Hour

We extend our thanks to our volunteer *Pamela Guzman* 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 10:00am Mass.**

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.

**St. Thomas More Parish Council
Speaker Series**

Tuesday, March 3rd – 7:00PM

Church of St. Thomas More

65 East 89th Street, NY 10128

Rochester Room

Presentation

*"The Evolving Christian Family:
Fear, Joy and Commitment"*

An exploration of the Christian family as it has been influenced not only by general cultural changes but also by the evolution of the Church's understanding of the Gospel and the fears, joys and commitments experienced by Christian families.

Speaker: Dr. Sidney Callahan

Visit with the Speaker and Share Light Refreshments
Following the Presentation

Free Will Offering Accepted

Information: 212-876-7718

Sponsored by:

The Education Committee of the Parish Council

Church of the Epiphany

East 22nd St @ Second Avenue

Presents a St. Patrick's Day Concert

Featuring the Epiphany Adult Choir, and

Guest Instrumentalists

Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 PM

ADMISSION FREE



Making All Things New Update

The Cluster teams of St. Francis de Sales, St. Ignatius Loyola, and St. Thomas More have been working together since November to consider Cardinal Dolan's proposal that the parishes of St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Thomas More merge. You will recall that we were asked to respond to the proposal by March 1, 2015.

We are happy to report that our deliberations are complete, and that we forwarded our response to Cardinal Dolan earlier this week.

What follows is a summary of our report.

Cardinal Dolan's proposal reads:

1. The Parishes of St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Thomas More will merge
2. The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola will be designated as the parish church.
3. At the present time, St. Thomas More, although remaining a church which may be used on special occasions, Masses and sacraments will not be celebrated.

Our Cluster teams carefully considered the proposal, taking into account all the stated goals of *Making All Things New*. We also addressed three specific concerns that had motivated the proposal: the vibrancy of the Catholic community in our area; the relative proximity of our two churches; and the financial stability of St. Thomas More.

Based on the following points, our unanimous conclusion was that the proposal is not a viable construction.

- I. We concluded that a merger of St. Thomas More with St. Ignatius Loyola would not enhance the vibrancy of the Catholic community, but in fact, would likely diminish it. In support of this, we identified what would be lost in terms of diversity of model, size, liturgical format, meeting space, programming, and charism.
- II. We concluded that the proximity of the parishes is not a compelling reason for merging because both churches are "destination parishes" which attract very different parishioners. We also noted that St. Thomas More is the only Roman Catholic Church located in Carnegie Hill.
- III. We concluded that St. Thomas More is on very strong financial footing, and that the expenses associated with maintaining a largely unused church building would suggest a strong financial drain on a newly formed parish.

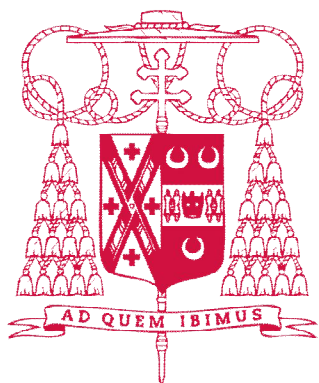
It is the conviction of the Cluster teams that a merger between St. Thomas More and St. Ignatius Loyola would not further the goals of *Making All Things New*, but would create tremendous heartache and difficulty instead. In place of this, we proposed to Cardinal Dolan that St. Thomas More and St. Ignatius Loyola remain independent parishes, and that we collaborate with St. Francis de Sales to achieve the goals of *Making All Things New*.

Over the course of our meetings, we have developed a deep appreciation for one another's parishes, and we are committed to working in close collaboration, particularly focusing on programming for teens, which is sorely needed at all three parishes, and on building greater complementarity among programs that already exist.

The pastors of all three parishes and the chair of our cluster group will appear before the Archdiocesan Advisory Group on Monday, March 9th, to delve deeper into our response and to answer questions. A final decision about the status of the parishes in our cluster is expected from Cardinal Dolan by the end of April.

Please continue to keep the process of Making All Things New in your prayers.

March 1, 2015



the
CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts 2015

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

Let us show appreciation to our priests and religious.

Our priests dedicate their lives to providing us with spiritual strength and guidance. Through the *Appeal*, the John Cardinal O'Connor and Our Lady of Consolation residences are for our retired priests.



The *Appeal* also ensures that monies received from the annual archdiocesan collection towards the fund for retired religious exceed \$1 million.

You can make your gift online at

www.cardinalsappeal.org

May God bless you for your generosity.