

Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel - St. Thomas More

230 East 90th Street - 65 East 89th Street
New York City, New York 10128

December 06, 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](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofSt.ThomasMore)

CLERGY

Rev. Kevin V, Madigan, Pastor
Rev. Edwin Diaz, Associate Pastor
Rev. Richard Terga, CICM

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

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.

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

SPECIAL MASSES - See Event Schedule

Mass for the Deaf - Alternate Saturdays and Sundays
Healing Mass - First Thursday of the Month

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

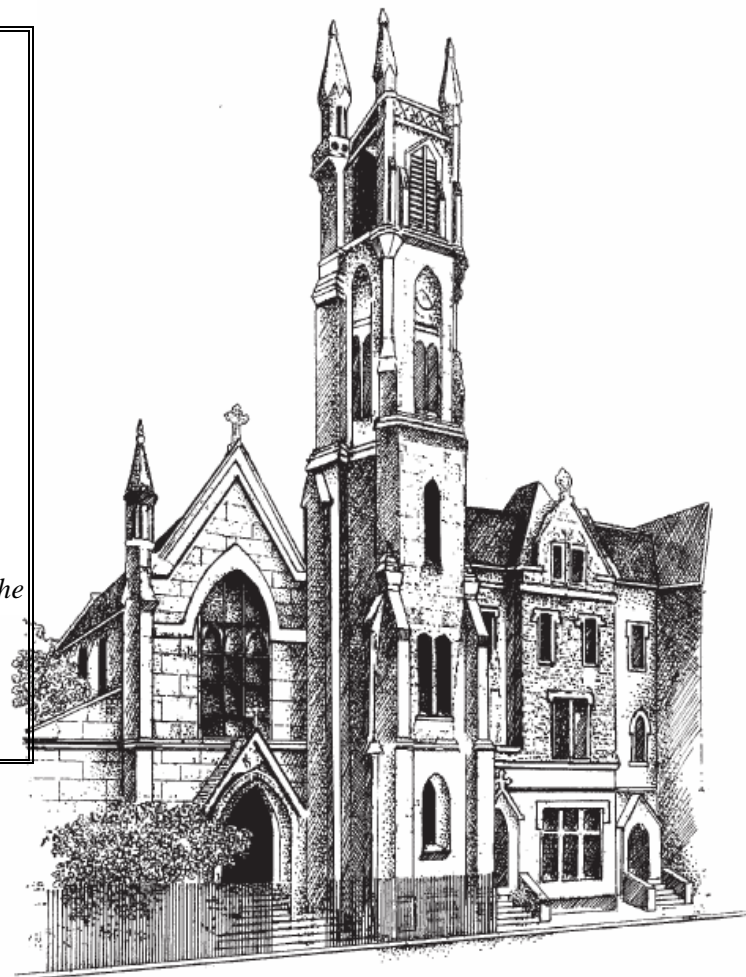
Christopher Baldwin
Michael Poulos

Parish Council President

Alicia Damley

Head Usher

John F.R. Smilgin, III



Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel - St. Thomas More

December 06 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

Each year we hear from John the Baptist in the Gospel readings for the second and third Sundays of Advent. Although most of his words and deeds are not preserved in the Gospels, John's role in salvation history should not be underestimated. The common reference to John the Baptist as the forerunner to Christ captures only one aspect of his public ministry. John fueled the messianic hopes of an entire generation of Jews who longed to hear and ponder the prophetic messages of old.

Of the four New Testament Gospel writers, Luke is the most sensitive to historical detail. The opening words of today's Gospel reading are a good example. Luke is very careful to place the activities of John the Baptist within the political and religious leadership of the late AD 20s. Aside from John living in the desert for most of his life (which is why many have theorized John grew up and was formed by the Essene community), little is known about John until he emerges from the desert as a prophet who proclaimed "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." John's call for repentance (in Greek, *metanoia*) required a total commitment, literally a change of heart and mind, before the initiate would receive baptism from John. Curiously, Luke introduces John the Baptist not by quoting John, but by quoting the words of the prophet Isaiah, which were spoken during Israel's captivity in Babylon, around 550 BC. Like the great and legendary prophet Isaiah, John was a prophet about to reveal to "all flesh... the salvation of God."

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



You're invited! Join Boomers & Beyond for their annual Christmas Caroling event at the Lott Assisted Living Residence. You don't have to be a super soprano or terrific tenor ... just someone who wants to join with us in sharing some Christmas joy through song... and perhaps stop at a local spot for a snack and drink afterwards.

Date: Sunday, Dec. 6th Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Lott Assisted Living Residence

5th Avenue (between 107th-108th).

Save the Date

Wednesday, December 16th at 8 PM

Tapestry

an excellent acappella choral group

In Concert: Performing Classical Pieces by

Mozart, Brahms, and Britten

in the Church of St. Thomas More

Sunday – November 29, 2015

Regular Collection - \$8,893.14

Regular Weekly Expenses - \$13,363.14

Attendance – 607

**The total Dwelling Place contribution was
\$5,799.48**

Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

Dec 06	Celebrant	Lector
Sat 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	The Rosses
Sun 8:30 am	Fr. Diaz	George Stonbely
Sun 10:00 am	Fr. Gibbons, SJ	Morriss Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Gibbons, SJ	Bob Burke
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	Rory Kelleher

Dec 13	Celebrant	Lector
Sat 5:45 pm	Fr. Madigan	Nick Farnham
Sun 8:30 am	Fr. Madigan	Louisa Martin
Sun 10:00 am	Fr. Quinn	Branche Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Quinn	Nilsa Santiago
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	Jim Sterling

*Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.*

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.

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE
FOR WEEK OF
DECEMBER 06 – DECEMBER 12**

Mon. December 07 *St. Ambrose*

8:00 Anthony Marino (D)

* 12:15 Thomas A. Johnson (D)

Tues. December 08 *Immaculate Conception*

8:00

* 12:15 Maria Morales (D)

Wed. December 09 *St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin*

8:00 Juanito Ascencio (D)

* 12:15 Christopher Begley (D)

Thurs. December 10

8:00 Vearnest Knight (D)

* 12:15 Jaime Ocampo (D)

Fri. December 11 *St. Damasus I*

8:00 The Kearney & Fanning Families (D)

* 12:15 Kathleen Crossey Paich (L)

Sat. December 12 *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:00 Dennis P. Murphy (L)

* 12:15 Manuel Aligaja, Sr. (D)

Sunday Vigil

5:45 Alex Wallau II (D)

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



WEEKDAY BIBLE READING

Sun: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Mon: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tues: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wed: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thurs: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Fri: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Sat: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Christian Meditation

December 9th – 6:00pm - Chapel

Location: St. Thomas More - 65 East 89th St

Manhattan Group Facilitator:

Donald Main - 415-668-143

costmny@christianmeditation.us

Events at St Thomas More.....

Date	Event	Time
12/6	Family Coffee Hour after the 10am Mass	
	Mass for the Deaf	2:00 pm
	Cocktail Hour after the 5:45pm Mass	
12/7	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/8	Leisure Lunch after the 12:15 Mass	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/9	Christian Meditation	6:00pm
12/10	Education Committee Presentation	
	Gianni Perilli, Ph.D., President	
	Dementia Services of NY	7:00 pm
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/11	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/12	Alzheimer's Workshop	9:00am
	Mass for the Deaf	3:00pm
	STM PC Youth Committee	
	Community Service Outreach Event	
	STM Parish Christmas Food Drive	
12/13	Family Coffee Hour after the 10am Mass	
	Christmas Tree lighting, Ornament Making & Brunch with a Special Visitor	
12/14	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/15	Leisure Lunch after the 12:15 Mass	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/16	Christian Meditation	6:00pm
	End of STM Toy Drive	
12/17	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/18	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/20	Family Coffee Hour after the 10am Mass	
	Mass for the Deaf	2:00pm
12/21	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/22	Leisure Lunch after the 12:15 Mass	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/23	Christian Meditation	6:00pm
12/24	Mass for the Deaf	2:00pm
	Christmas Eve Masses 4, 6 and 10pm	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/25	Christmas Day Masses 8:30, 10 and Noon	
	Mass for the Deaf	2:00pm
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/26	Mass for the Deaf	3:00pm
12/28	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/29	Leisure Lunch after the 12:15 Mass	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/30	Christian Meditation	6:00pm
12/31	New Year's Eve - No 5:45pm Mass	
	OLGC has a 6:00pm Mass	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
1/1	New Year's Day Masses 8, 12:15 and 5:45	
	A.A Meeting	6:30pm

No Parish Council Meeting in December,
and the date of the

January Parish Council Meeting has changed to
January 11th at 7:00pm.

Sunday Coffee Hour

We extend our thanks to our volunteer *Kathleen Dana* for hosting this Sunday's event, which is a wonderful way for parishioners to meet and get to know one another. We look forward to meeting you there after **the 10:00am Family Mass.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Saturday Morning Breakfast

Come serve breakfast at the OLGC Saturday Morning Breakfast on Saturdays from 7:15-9am. All adults welcome. To sign-up visit www.thomasmorechurch.org.

For information email Kathleen Dana at kathleendana@yahoo.com Location: Cafeteria at OLGC 230 East 90th Street. (Down the steps in the front of the church and the doors directly in front.)

CHADD of New York is proud to present:

Harnessing the Power of the Law

Presented by Bonnie Spiro Schinagle, Esq., Effective advocacy is difficult when you don't have familiarity with the laws and the necessary basic vocabulary to protect you or your child. This presentation will teach you what you need to know about the legal rights and protections available to school-aged children with learning differences or other special needs.

Date & Time: December 7, 2015 - 5:55PM

Where: Church of St. Thomas More
65 East 89th Street, Manhattan

Meetings are free, with a \$10 donation requested.
Please leave the kids at home. No food, please.

Advent Liturgy of Lessons and Carols

A festive holiday tradition at St. Vincent Ferrer Church, the choir, clergy, and lectors present an Advent-Christmas liturgy proclaiming God's promise of salvation to mankind, through scripture, anthems, and familiar carols.

Day, Date and Time: Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3:00pm

Cost: Free Will Offering

Location: The Church of St. Vincent Ferrer
869 Lexington Avenue NYC

Contact: Music Office: (212) 744-2080, ext. 16

CHURCH OF ST THOMAS MORE

Christmas Toy Drive

In support of

Little Sisters of the Assumption

Family Health Service

In this season of joy and giving, STM will again be holding its Christmas Toy Drive from **Dec 1 – 16** in support of Little Sisters of the Assumption, which works with families in East Harlem to address the many dimensions of health - physical, emotional, educational and spiritual. With nearly 60 years experience in the East Harlem community, their goal is to help families become self-sustaining, contributing members of the community.

Please drop off new, unwrapped toys, books and clothing for children 0 – 12 years in the marked box at the back of the church. Suitable items include educational games, soccer and basketballs. Please do not include stuffed animals, games or toys that glorify violence. Gift cards for Old Navy, Target or Marshalls are also welcome. Gift cards may be left with the parish Reception Desk.

Help brighten this Christmas for a child less fortunate.

Thank you for your generous support!
Wishing you and yours Joy and Peace this Christmas Season!

Coming Soon: Handcrafted Olivewood from the Holy Land December 19th and 20th

after each Mass in the Rochester Room.

The Olivewood carving industries has evolved as a cultural tradition of the Christians over many centuries. Many Holy Land Christians in the Bethlehem area alone rely upon income generated from this art form. The items are carved by local craftsmen. Many families are facing crisis situations. Without income, many craftsmen and families leave their traditional trade and emigrate with their families to find relief from the difficult conditions of their Homeland. Sixty years ago, Christians represented more than 28% of the population and now represent less than 2%. The loss of Christians in the land of Christ's birth will represent a tragedy of immeasurable proportions for the billions of Christians worldwide.

Thank you for your vital support for a Christian Tradition and in protecting this very important culture and industry.

St. Patrick's Cathedral
36th Annual A City Singing at Christmas
Thursday, December 17, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate this joyful time of the year with traditional and contemporary Christmas hymns and carols! To end the evening, the Cathedral lights are dimmed to allow the candle lights to illuminate the Cathedral as Silent Night is sung.

Alzheimer's: Support for Family Caregivers

Gianni Perilli, president of Dementia Services New York, a support group for family caregivers of patients with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, will speak on **Thursday, December 10th, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Rochester Room in the Parish House. Dr. Perilli's goal is to increase community awareness on the differences between normal aging and Alzheimer's; challenges and approaches in caring at home for a loved one diagnosed with the disease or some other form of dementia; and how a person of middle-age can approach aging in a more healthy manner. All interested in this vitally important subject are welcome to attend.

On **Saturday, December 12th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon**, in the Conference Room in the Parish House, Dr. Perilli will conduct a session providing support information for **caregivers** of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia. Attendance for the Saturday session is limited to 20 people; those wishing to attend must register by calling the Parish House at 212-876-7718. Participants may attend either or both sessions. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

DEMELLO-STROUD SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE

Saturday, December 19 - 8:00 AM - 4:45 PM
Epiphany Church Hall, Second Ave, 21-22 St,
Manhattan

WAKE UP TO THE JOYS OF ADVENT

"Listen to the song the Angels sang when YOU were born!"

Reflections in the Spirit of Anthony Demello, S.J.
8:00-9:00. Bagels and coffee

9:00-4:45. Interactive discussion, talks, video--
JOY, AWARENESS, SILENCE, LOVE, MEDITATION
Presented by Desmond Towey & Josephine Dixon Hall
of the Demello-Stroud Spirituality

Center, located at Epiphany Church. Register:
917-859-1701/demellostroud@aol.com

FREE OF CHARGE: Modest gratitude donations will enable the Center to continue its work.

Next Sunday's Special Collection

Our annual archdiocesan collection for those Religious 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.

SING WE NOEL

Annual Christmas Concerts

December 13, 2015 and December 20, at 3 PM

Includes well-known seasonal favorites rendered by the Choirs and Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola and the N.P. Mander Organ, as well as carols for everyone to join in.

Cost: \$35-\$85

Location : Church of St. Ignatius Loyola,
212.288.2520 or concerts@stignatiusloyola.org

Leisure Lunch Program

Tuesday December 8th after the 12:15pm Mass

**The 71st Park Avenue
Tree Lighting and Carol Sing**
Sunday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m.

The whole community is invited to gather in front of the Brick Church steps on Park Avenue at 91st Street where Rev. Michael Lindvall will share words of remembrance and celebration and all will join in a rousing Carol Sing.

After the Tree Lighting and Carol Sing come back to the St. Thomas More Parish House to join the Monthly Cocktail Hour, which is scheduled to begin after the 5:45 Mass.

A good opportunity to build community spirit on what is essentially a spiritual activity.

Poetry and Art

Celebrating the Birth of Jesus:

An Art Slide Lecture Presented by Fr. Leo J. O'Donovan, SJ – President Emeritus, Georgetown University, this lecture will combine the poetry of John Milton, Martin Luther, George Herbert, Thomas Hardy, and others with some of the most stirring visual portrayals of the birth of Jesus, examining how the incarnation gives history its deepest meaning by turning it toward an "Eternal Now."

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 9th at 7:30 PM

Location: Wallace Hall, 980 Park Avenue

Questions or need additional details

Elizabeth O'Sullivan Communications Coordinator
Church of St. Ignatius Loyola 212-288-3588 x647