

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

230 East 90th Street - 65 East 89<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York City, New York 10128

December 20, 2015

**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](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](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)

## 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

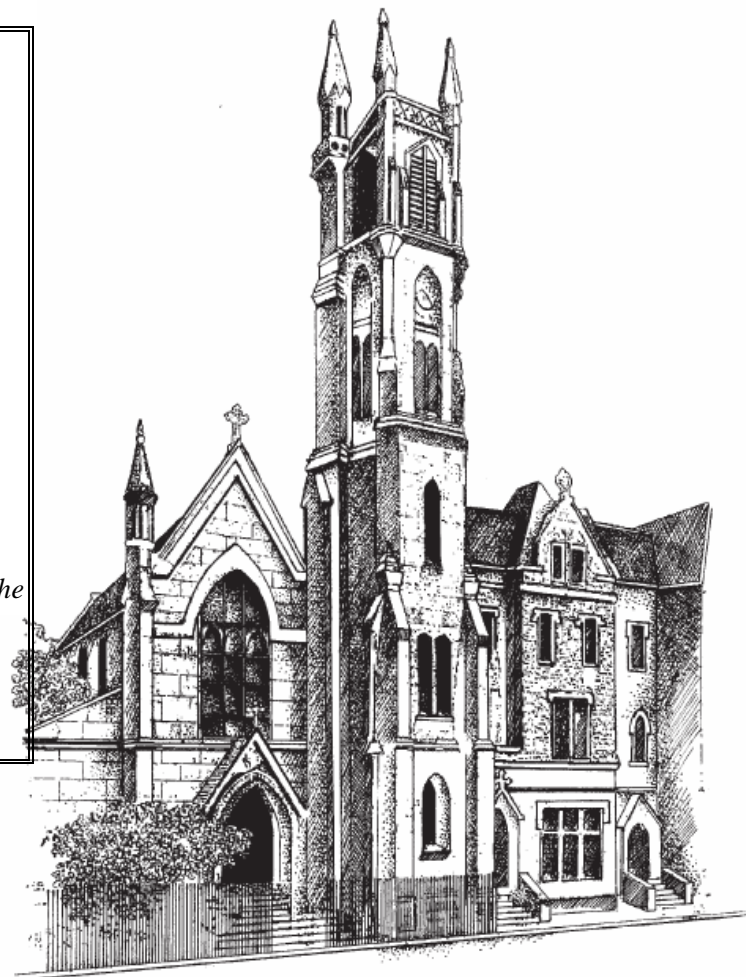
Christopher Baldwin  
Paul Saunders

## Parish Council President

Alicia Damley

## Head Usher

John F.R. Smilgin, III



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## December 20 2015

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

As we enter into the Fourth Sunday of Advent, attention turns from John the Baptist to an encounter between Mary and Elizabeth. In a very real way, Luke offers us a glimpse into the *first* advent: Mary and Elizabeth (and even the unborn John), wait in hope for the birth of Jesus.

In the Gospel reading, we hear Elizabeth's greeting of Mary who came to the "hill country" to visit her. Luke tells us that upon seeing Mary, Elizabeth was "filled with the Holy Spirit." The presence and work of the Holy Spirit is a major theme in the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Throughout Luke's infancy narrative, for example, the Holy Spirit is present, filling individuals with insight and wisdom. In fact, for Luke, the Holy Spirit is present in Jesus' public ministry as well as central to the birth and life of the early church. One of the important messages in Elizabeth's greeting was the importance of Mary's depth of faith: "Blessed are you who believed that was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled".

As the Gospel reading teaches us today, it was Elizabeth who first bore witness to Mary as the model of this response to God. As Christians preparing for the birth of the Messiah, we are challenged to follow this divine decree as well.

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

### Celebrant / Lector Mass Schedule

<b>Dec 20</b>	<b>Celebrant</b>	<b>Lector</b>
Sat 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	The Rosses
Sun 8:30 am	Fr. Gibbons, SJ	TBD
Sun 10:00 am	Fr. Gibbons, SJ	Boorady Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Madigan	Christine Stonbely
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Madigan	Chris Baldwin

<b>Dec 27</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. Quinn	Bednar Family
Sun 12:00 pm	Fr. Quinn	Jacqueline Ackerina
Sun 5:45 pm	Fr. Diaz	Rory Kelleher

#### Sunday – December 13, 2015

Regular Collection - \$11,720.58

Religious Retirement - \$2,700.55

Regular Weekly Expenses - \$14,344.52

Attendance – 643

*Blessed are you among women, and  
blessed is the fruit of your womb.*

### Leisure Lunch Program

Tues. December 22<sup>nd</sup> after the 12:15pm Mass

Next Lunch - January 19<sup>th</sup>

### Conversations with "Recycled" Catholics

Many people—Catholics, those of other religions and of no religion—have been struck by the words and actions of Pope Francis. Included among them are former Catholics who have long felt alienated from many of the Church's positions and practices, but now may be considering giving Catholicism a second look. This series of "conversations," not lectures, is designed for such people—not for those who are comfortable in their faith and are looking for spiritual development. In a series of six non-judgmental, open yet focused discussions, Fr. Madigan will help participants reflect on their lived experience of Catholicism, its positive and negative aspects, in the hope of discovering possible directions for the future. The general approach could be described as a "therapy of the imagination," an attempt to discover how familiar doctrines, metaphors and images can be mined for new insights and meaning.

The series will begin at the Parish House on Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 7:00pm. There is no fee and refreshments will be served.. To register call the Parish House at 212-876-7718. Please share this information with family members or friends whom you think might be interested

### Sunday Coffee Hour

We extend our thanks to our volunteer

*Peter & Celeste Manice* 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**.

**MASS INTENTIONS AND FEAST  
DAYS AT ST. THOMAS MORE  
FOR WEEK OF  
DECEMBER 20 – DECEMBER 26**

Mon. December 21 *St. Peter Canisius*

8:00 Francis X. Golden (D)

\* 12:15 Joseph Phelan (D)

Tues. December 22

8:00 Paul Vermeylen (D)

\* 12:15 Roberto Arguello (D)

Wed. December 23 *St. John of Kanty*

8:00 Camden Nuckols (D)

\* 12:15 Edelberta Gomez (D)

Thurs. December 24

8:00 Seton Fell Holt (D)

\* 12:15

Thurs. December 24 *Christmas Vigil Masses*

4:00pm

6:00pm

10:00pm

Fri. December 25 *The Nativity of the Lord*

8:30am

10:00am

12:00pm

Sat. December 26 *St. Stephen*

8:00 Marina Livanos (L)

\* 12:15 Mary Regis & Patricia Becker (L)

**Sunday Vigil**

5:45 Jayne B. McClelahd (D)

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



**WEEKDAY BIBLE READING**

**Sun:** Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

**Mon:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45

**Tues:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**Wed:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

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

**Fri:** Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6;

Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

**Sat:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

**Events at St Thomas More.....**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
12/19	Holy Land Rosewood Sale Reception Area	
12/20	Holy Land Rosewood Sale Reception Area	
	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
12/24	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
12/27	Family Coffee Hour after the 10am Mass	
12/28	A.A Meeting	6:30pm
12/29	No Leisure Lunch	
	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

No Parish Council Meeting in December,

**Layperson Contacts**

**Volunteer Outreach for  
St. Thomas More Church**

**Ushers** Daniel Flynn  
[flynn.daniel@gmail.com](mailto:flynn.daniel@gmail.com)

**Altar Servers**

Fr. Diaz [fredwindiaz@yahoo.com](mailto:fredwindiaz@yahoo.com)  
Steve Schiller [steveschiller@gmail.com](mailto:steveschiller@gmail.com)

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Fr. Diaz [fredwindiaz@yahoo.com](mailto:fredwindiaz@yahoo.com)

**Teen Volunteers** (Including Saturday Morning  
Breakfast Program) Kathy Dana  
[kathleendana@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleendana@yahoo.com)

**Lectors/Mass Reading** Jim Dillon  
[jvd422@gmail.com](mailto:jvd422@gmail.com)

**Coffee Hour**

Elizabeth William  
[elizabeth.ewilliams@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.ewilliams@gmail.com)

**STM Sunday Cocktail Hour**

Catherine Scalera [scaleracat@aol.com](mailto:scaleracat@aol.com)

**Leisure Lunch**

Pat Saunders [pasaunder@aol.com](mailto:pasaunder@aol.com)

**Collection Counters**

Ed Litcher [stmbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:stmbusiness@gmail.com)

**Religious Education Teachers**

Fr Madigan [kmadigan@nyc.rr.com](mailto:kmadigan@nyc.rr.com)