



ST. THOMAS MORE

FEBRUARY 1, 2026 • FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



You can make all the difference in the world, even if only to one person.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, February 1—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Michael Mercier by Kathy & Gene Garcia
- 10:00 am Margareta Buczkowski by Karen & Jim Sliwa
- 12:00 pm James & Nancy Kaczka by Career Networking

MONDAY, February 2—Presentation of the Lord

- 6:30 am Joseph Pawlak (Anniv.) by Family
- 8:30 am Margaret & Vince Grober by Julie & Chris Ylo

TUESDAY, February 3—St. Blaise

- 6:30 am Della D. Klobuchar "Nani" by Altar & Rosary
- 8:30 am Stephen Caco by Family

WEDNESDAY, February 4

- 6:30 am Ed & Jean Hreha by Children
- 8:30 am Carmen Garcia by Serrano Family

THURSDAY, February 5—St. Agatha

- 6:30 am Joseph Ogarek by Tim O'Connor
- 8:30 am Joseph Oblon (Anniv.) by Bob & Joseph Gauger

FRIDAY, February 6—St. Paul Miki & Companions

- 6:30 am Louise Younkens by Joyce & Deacon Joe Stodola
- 8:30 am Roger & Dorothy Smitley by Smitley Family

SATURDAY, February 7

- 8:30 am Joanne Jurich by Tom & Louisa Jurich
- 5:30 pm Ann Marie Panek by Brian Panek & Family

SUNDAY, February 8—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Joseph Trgovich by Trgovich Family
- 10:00 am Leslie Murphy by Family
- 12:00 pm Rufino Aquino (Anniv.) by Aquino Family

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Mission Statement:

The Roman Catholic Saint Thomas More Parish Family welcomes and invites every person to join us on our journey in faith and celebration. With the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and through Sacred Scripture and Tradition, we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, especially in loving service to those in need.

As part of the Universal Church, we affirm the dignity of every person. All this we do to give glory and honor to God.

St. Thomas More Church • 8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321 • (219) 836-8610 • www.stm-church.com

THE REMNANT

"Tune your television to any channel it doesn't receive and about 1 percent of the dancing static you see is accounted for by this ancient remnant of the Big Bang. The next time you complain that there is nothing on, remember that you can always watch the birth of the universe." ~ Bill Bryson

Abraham Isaac Kook once wrote, "A tiny remnant of a big thing is better than a whole little thing." I think, in many ways, he reflects the thought of Bill Bryson in today's opening quote.

In today's first reading as well, God spoke through the prophet Zephaniah when he uttered, "I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord: the remnant of Israel."

Remnants. When I first became familiar with that word, it was in terms of carpeting. My mother used to go to carpet stores and purchase the rectangles of remnants that the store was selling at dirt cheap prices. They were generally samples of carpeting that was discontinued and no longer sold.

With some carpet string, she would sew the remnants together in intriguing patterns and, voila, we would have a brand new area rug out of pieces that were once considered worthless.

That is what the remnant of Israel felt about themselves in history. They felt cast off, useless, worthless. But God, through Zephaniah, reminded them that they were left in the midst of nations as a visible sign to others. A remnant could be worthless. A remnant, on the other hand, could also be priceless.

There are days, when attempting to live the faith in a world that is so deeply troubled, that we might feel as if we, too, have no worth. We do not see the value that we have because our world appears so dark and overpowering. Nothing can overpower God, however.

If we live as His faithful people, we have the opportunity to provide a picture of what could be. A people of love, forgiveness, and serenity can take on the world if we just put our minds to it.

So, what do you say? Are you going to adopt an attitude of worthlessness, of thinking that you are too small of a remnant to make a difference? Think again. You can make all the difference in the world, even if only to one person.

FAITH ACTION: Don't worry about everyone else. Ask God to give you the grace that you need to live as a faith-filled person so as to inspire others.

Fr. Mike

PLEASE REMEMBER THEM

Please pray for the priests and deacons who have served the Diocese of Gary so faithfully and whose anniversaries of death are this week:

- February 2: Rev. Dennis Teles (2014)
- February 3: Msgr. Francis A. Rego (1987)
- February 4: Rev. Stephen J. Vrabely (1994)
Reverend John Beckmann (1996)
- February 5: Rev. Vincent E. Eckert (1978)
Rev. Stanley J. Dominik (2024)
- February 6: Deacon Alexander Saims (2008)

THE POWER OF THE EUCHARIST



"Eucharistic Adoration is an invaluable conversation with Christ where we learn more deeply of the mysteries of His Divine and human life."

~ St. Pope John Paul II

"Eucharistic Adoration is the most necessary mission to the Church, which has even more need of prayerful souls than of powerful preachers or men of eloquence."

~ St. Peter Julian Eymard

"During a Holy Hour our love for Jesus becomes more intimate, our love for each other more understanding, and our love for the poor more compassionate."

~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

"The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white Host."

~ Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

LENT WILL BE UPON US SOON

A quick peek ahead:

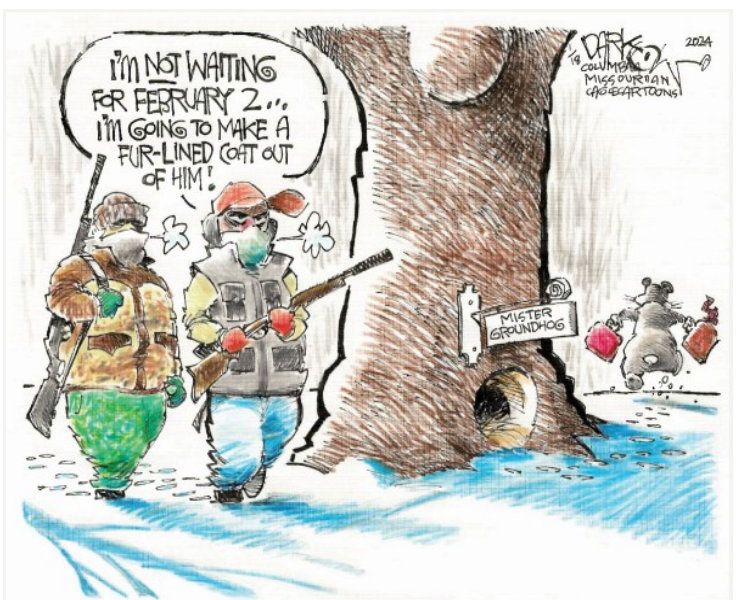
- February 18 - Ash Wednesday
- March 24 - Lent Penance Service
- March 29 - Palm Sunday
- April 2 - Holy Thursday
- April 3 - Good Friday
- April 4 - Holy Saturday
- April 5 - Easter Sunday

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A minister thought that the reason he had no one coming to the altar week after week was because his sermons were too short.

The next week he decided to preach for an hour and a half. Sure enough, 18 people came down the aisle to the altar to lay down after the first hour of preaching.

He thought it was odd, though, that none of them got up after he was done.



Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to this list and our Circle of Prayer Group, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/42tadtyt>, use the QR code or call the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610.



Nancy Almason
Antonio Belmonte
Diane Bochnowski
Linda Braun
Jack Brunetti
Diane Butler
Ursula Cichy
Kevin Clark
Loretta Clott
Charlotte Conn
Valerie Czapkovicz
Janice De Vries
David Dull
Gabriela Gallegos
Gary Gardner
Joan Glinski
Howard Gralewski
Margaret Gray
Christine Greenberg
Mary Ellen Gullicks
Jeffrey Gunning
Katie Kardes Hargett
Elaine Herrmann
Robert Heseck

Steve James
Barbara Jamrose
Kelly Jean
Margaret Jones
Joseph D. Karulski
Dr. Greg Kelly
Mary Alyce Kelly
Susan Kolodziej
Gregory P. Koscielski
Crystal Kurek
Jordan Lesniewski
Skip Lind
Paul A. Martin
Carolyn McGill
Sandi Merlo
Gino Michels
Madeline Mikolanis
Thomas Mordaunt
Bernadine Nemeth
Margaret Nickrent
Dawn Niebling
Don Noworyta
Clare O'Brien
Elizabeth (Betty)

Pallotto
Dennis Perz
Lucille Perz
Ruth Ramirez
Antonia Rodriguez
Valetine Rudakas
Paul Runick
Karen Rutz
Karen Sliwa
Steven Sliwa
Georgianne Suto
Michele Thomas
Rosemary Thomas
Russ Thomas
David Trotman
James Wachel
Kathy Wachel

Gospel Reflection Matthew 5:1-12a

A priest I know was once falsely accused of a terrible crime. The claim was wild and easily disproved, but for a while, it didn't matter. In the atmosphere shaped by the abuse crisis of the early 2000s, the public assumption was guilty until proven innocent. His name was dragged through the mud, and his ministry placed on hold. I had the privilege — and the burden — of walking closely with him during that time.

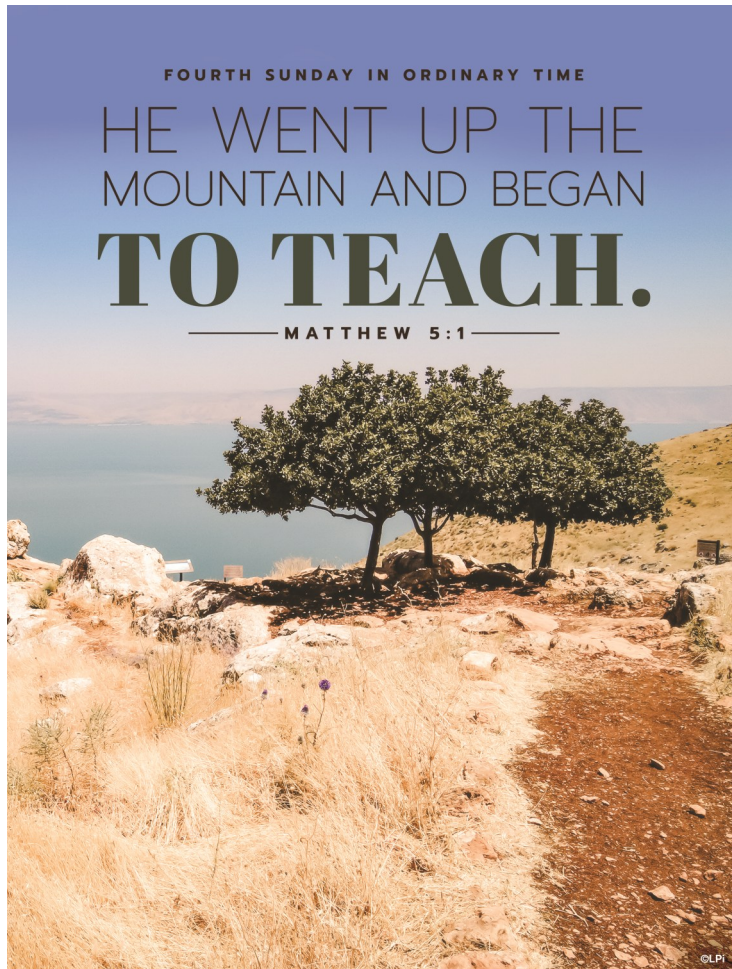


He was angry. He was confused. He felt abandoned and deeply disoriented. The last thing on his mind was the words of Jesus in today's Gospel: **"Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me ... Rejoice and be glad"** (Matthew 5:11-12). Rejoice? He felt anything but.

And yet... something holy slowly grew in him. Not overnight, and not without pain. But as the truth came to light and his name was cleared, I watched him become more Christlike — more patient, more compassionate, more detached from human approval.

Maybe you haven't faced something so dramatic. But where do you feel judged? Misrepresented? Overlooked? Maybe someone else got the credit or the promotion. Maybe someone you love isn't getting their due. In those moments, the Cross of Jesus is near. When we feel accused, that's when we ask him for the grace not just to endure, but somehow, mysteriously, to rejoice and be glad.

Father John Muir
©LPi



Readings Week of February 1

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a
Monday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

Prayer of the Faithful

We Pray...

That others can see we live as Christians by the way we act, dress and talk.

Weis Center • Parish Ministry Center

8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321
Phone: (219) 836-2660

Ministry Schedule

Monday, February 2

5:30 pm Parents Bible Study—Weis Center Room 101
7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous—Weis Center Room 101
7:00 pm Girl Scout Leaders—Weis Center Main Hall

Tuesday, February 3

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 542—Weis Center Main Hall

Wednesday, February 4

8:00 am Coffee with the Principal—Weis Center Main Hall
9:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study—Weis Center Rm 101
12:00 pm Seniors of STM—Weis Center Main Hall
4:30 pm Brownie Troop 15625—Weis Center Main Hall
6:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul—Weis Center Room 101

Thursday, February 5

5:00 pm Girl Scouts—Weis Center Main Hall
5:30 pm Cub Scouts 542 Tigers 1st Grade—Weis Center Rm 101

Friday, February 6

9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth—Weis Center Room 101

Sunday, February 8

5:00 pm T.G.I.F. Teen Ministry—Weis Center Main Hall

Add these dates to your calendar:

Monday 2/2/2026

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Friday 2/6/2026

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Monday 2/9/2026

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Monday 2/16/2026

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Wednesday 2/18/2026—Ash Wednesday Masses

6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Friday 2/20/2026

4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry -STM Gym

Monday 2/23/2026

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Wednesdays 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18 & 3/25/2026

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Lenten Study & Share "Seven Pillars"
Weis Center Main Hall

Thursdays 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19 & 3/26/2026

9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Lenten Study & Share "Seven Pillars"
Weis Center Main Hall

Monday 3/2/2026

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel

Friday 3/6/2026

9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration—STM Chapel
4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Holy Name Society Lenten Fish Fry—STM Gym

Celebrants

Saturday, February 7

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

Sunday, February 8

6:30 a.m. Carmelite Father
8:00 a.m. Carmelite Father
10:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
12:00 Noon Fr. Mike Yadron



Altar Servers

Saturday, February 7

5:30 p.m. MC—Hunter, AS—X. Mendoza & M. Moya

Sunday, February 8

8:00 a.m. MC—Derek, AS—A. & L. Jara & H. Jorsch
10:00 a.m. MC—Gabi, AS—B. & T. Ogunyoye & S. Santellano
12:00 Noon MC—Lukas, AS—O. Mack



Greeters Schedule for the Week

Saturday, February 7

5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Miles Sepiol & Jo Ann Karr
Chapel: Michelle Strimel
Choir: Lisa Mendoza

If you would like to be a Greeter, please contact
Lisa Mendoza
718mendoza@gmail.com

Sunday, February 8

6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: Julie Loza

8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: David & Denise Jones
Chapel: Maria Rodriguez
Choir: Mike Cardone

10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Jose & Paula Serrano
Chapel: Magdalena Arteaga
Choir: —

12:00 Noon Mass

Main: —

Greeters needed for the 12 Noon Mass! Please consider signing up!



Stewardship REFLECTION

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 5:3

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.



Seniors of STM

Join our fun group of active Seniors!
You **do not** need to be a St. Thomas More parishioner ...everyone 55+ is welcome!

**All Meetings are at the
Weis Center at 1:00 p.m.**
(unless noted otherwise).

*The cold weather doesn't stop our Seniors.
There is always hot coffee and warm greetings
awaiting you at our gatherings!*

February 4th—Pizza Party!

12:00 p.m. —Weis Center

Advance reservations were required
Plan to join us for some good friends,
good food and a good time!

Wednesday, February 18th

1:00 p.m. Weis Center

Speaker: Todd Nolder (Powers Health)
Topic: Sleep Disorders



Millions of Monicas

Grow in holiness, humility and community.

Join with other mothers in praying for their adult children and loved ones
to return to the Catholic Church. St. Monica prayed unceasingly for her
son, St. Augustine's conversion.

Thursday February 12th

2nd Thursdays of Every Month
STM Chapel, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

St. Monica, pray for us!

St. Vincent DePaul Pantry Needs Your Help!



Bitter cold temperatures and increases in energy costs have many
NWI residents choosing between warmth and food. SVDP does
their best to help people in all situations, please help their efforts!

Peanut Butter	Or Hash Browns, etc.
Jelly	Rice
Pasta Sauce	Hamburger Helper
Canned Pasta	Pork & Beans
Canned Vegetables	Frosting
Canned Meats	
(Chicken, Beef Stew, Spam & Tuna)	Shampoo
Canned Fruit	Toothpaste
Instant Mashed Potatoes	Dish Soap

We appreciate your contributions to help us carry out our mission.
Note: Parishioners wishing to make a monetary donation should use their
"green envelope" (make checks payable to: St. Thomas More/SVDP)

Thank you for helping our neighbors in need. God bless you!

Contact Mike Martinelli at themartinellis@att.net

The February Nursery Schedule

The Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass Nursery

*The Nursery is in the "Brides Room", located in
the Church Main Entrance*

Feb. 1—Susie, Finn & Kian Kinsella

Feb. 8—Kaaren Mashura & Rachel Perezchica

Feb. 15—Ann & Katie Harkenrider, Giuliana Diaz

Feb. 22—Jennifer & Oliver Anderson

We Need Your Help!

Volunteers are needed in our
Sunday Morning Nursery,
including 8th Grade Students and
High School Students
that need Service Hours.

**Please call Ann Harkenrider at
1-708-334-5228.**



All volunteers 18 and over must have completed
the Virtus training.

Do Not Wait Until Ash Wednesday To Prepare For Lent

When something is important to us, we prepare for it. With just a little more than two weeks to go, are we preparing for Lent? I haven't, yet! Have you?

My family and I will be going to Quebec, in June, and boy are we excited! As a result, we have done tons of preparation. We already have our itinerary, hotel rooms, passports, and rental van. All we need to do is pack up and go, even though the trip is still five months away. There's nothing necessarily wrong with this excitement and preparation, so long as it doesn't become the most important thing in our lives. Keep the eye on the prize: God. But, we don't travel often, and we're taking my parents, who are seventy-nine and eighty-one and have never been to Quebec.

I like to believe that Lent is important to me, but I usually fail to prepare for it ahead of time. I earnestly try to take the Church's advice by increasing my prayer (privately and in communal worship), fasting (a spiritual exercise, not a diet program), and almsgiving (giving and doing more to and for people in need). I attend Stations of the Cross, go to a few daily Masses, and follow the fasting and abstinence guidelines of the Church. Even though my children are young enough that they don't *have* to, they like to abstain from meat on Fridays and give something up for Lent, too. It's encouraged at their Catholic school.

Despite all of this, I often don't know what I'm actually going "to do" for Lent, until about Ash Wednesday or, maybe, Fat Tuesday, if I'm lucky.

So, as intentional disciples of Jesus Christ, and if you're anything like me, let's choose to do things differently, this year, and start preparing for Lent, today! To go about doing this, I offer five small suggestions, for your consideration.

1. Pray – ask God what you need to do for Lent; don't decide for yourself; take God's lead.
2. Do a thorough Examination of Conscience (the USCCB offers a number of good ones on their website, www.usccb.org) – figure out where your areas of sin are. Lent is about trying to come back to God, grow closer to Him, start over, and become holy, through a deeper, more intimate relationship with Him.
3. Bring your sins to Jesus Christ, and ask Him to put that sin to death in you, this Lent. Ask for the grace to resist and repent of the sins that you need to reject.
4. Write this all down, so as to be able to return to your plan, throughout Lent.
5. For accountability, share this plan with a trusted loved one or spiritual director.

Since Lent is important to you, don't wait.

Start preparing for it, today.



St. Thomas More

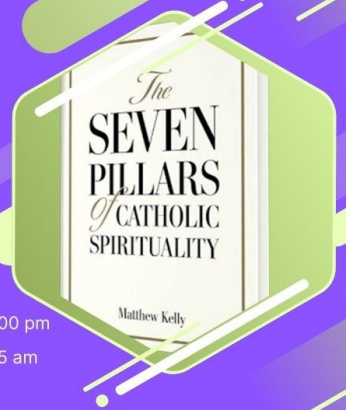
LENTEN STUDY & SHARE

5-Week Small Group Discussion following Matthew Kelly's "Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality"

STARTING FEB. 25TH

Evening Sessions: Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm

Morning Sessions: Thursdays 9:15-10:45 am

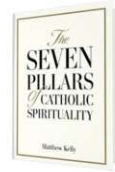


Lenten Study and Share Small Group Sessions

Accompanying the Reading of:

"The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality"

by Matthew Kelly



Wednesday Evening Sessions 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Feb. 25, March 4, March 11, March 18 and March 25

Thursday Morning Sessions 9:15-10:45 a.m.

Feb. 26, March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26

Sessions will be held at the **Weis Ministry Center** and will include time for fellowship and faith sharing.

Register Here —>

Or go to:

<https://www.stm-church.com/events?id=99>



Please call Daniel Maul with questions at

219-836-8610, Ext. 2415 or email dmaul@stm-church.com

Hallow

Pray every day this Lent

Try It for Free



Go to hallow.com/lent to find resources on fasting, daily prayer, and other resources for a prayerful Lenten season this year.



February 1, 2026

St. Thomas More School



STMS Cash Raffle Returns

Back by popular demand!

Get your tickets now for the St. Thomas More School

Cash Raffle

Drawing will be held at 8:00 p.m. during the STMS Trivia Night on March 14, 2026.

Winners need not be present.

Tickets: Only \$10 Each

Grand Prize: \$5,000

2nd Prize: \$3,000 • 3rd Prize: \$1,000 • Plus 10 \$100 Prizes

Purchase tickets in the Parish Office or from your favorite STMS student.



Apply Today!

Our thanks to all who visited the school last weekend. If someone you know is interested in the phenomenal Catholic education offered at our National Blue Ribbon School, apply now! Classes are filling quickly.

New for 2026-2027: All Indiana families may qualify for the Indiana Choice Scholarship!

If you value a faith-based education, a place where teachers are strong, effective & loving, where there is a true family atmosphere, where students are kind, respectful & confident and where we approach everything with an "Excellence Happens on Purpose" attitude, then

St. Tom's may be the school for you!

Questions? Contact Pam Pasyk

ppasyk@stm-school.com



Catholic Schools Week 2026

Celebrating Our Families

Catholic Schools Week 2026 kicked-off with our annual Open House, welcoming over 50 prospective families to our school building for tours and great conversations. The halls were teeming with excitement as our current students ushered parents to their classrooms to see class work displayed and visit with their teachers.

After a day off due to weather conditions on Monday, the week started on a high note as we celebrated our families with an All School Family Mass on Tuesday morning.

The church was packed with students and family members, as our big, happy school family gathered together in prayer and song. What a joy!



DOWNLOAD YOUR 2025 GIVING STATEMENT

Your 2025 Giving Statement is now available online
through our new parish database, **Ministry Platform**.

Access is quick, secure and available anytime through our church website.



WHAT YOU'LL NEED

To connect your account, you will need the following information:

☐ First Name ☐ Last Name ☐ Email ☐ Cell Phone Number

If you received an email from STM, use the information included in that message.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR STATEMENT:

1. Go to <https://www.stm-church.com/my-giving>
2. Select **Login**.
3. On the next page, choose **Create an Account**.
4. Enter your **First Name**, **Last Name**, **Email Address** and **Mobile Phone Number**, then select **Next**.
5. You will receive a **verification code** by email (or possibly text).
6. Enter the code. You will be taken to a page to **create and confirm a new password**. Select **Reset Password**.
7. Return to the login screen, enter your email and password, and select **Log In**.
8. If you receive a message that says **No Statements Currently Available**, please give us 24 hours to update your account prior to reaching out.
9. Once logged in, select **2025** to view your giving statement and choose **Save as PDF**.



Please review your statement and compare it with your personal records.

Need Help?

Questions/Discrepancies?

Contact Charles Schimpf, Director of Finance
cschimpf@stm-church.com, 219-836-8610, Ext. 2329

General questions or login assistance:

Contact Noreen Bickel, Director of Parish Mission
nbickel@stm-church.com, 219-836-8610, Ext. 2330

Received multiple emails from us?

This likely means you have a duplicate profile.
Please forward one email to nbickel@stm-church.com
so we can merge your records and ensure **all donations are included**.

Need a paper copy?

We encourage online access whenever possible. If you are unable to retrieve your statement online, contact the parish office at 219-836-8610.

St. Thomas More Religious Education

1st -8th Grade • Classes: Wednesday or Thursday 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Religious Education Office Hours:

Mon, Tues & Fri: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. • Wed & Thurs 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Director: Emily Hackett; Ext. 2232 • ehackett@stm-church.com

February Schedule

February 4/5 Class

February 11/12 Class

February 18/19 NO CLASS—ASH WEDNESDAY

February 25/26 Class

March Schedule

March 4/5 Class

March 11/12 Class

March 18/19 Class

March 25/26 Class

Families Get Creative with Advent Activities

This Advent, our Religious Education students brought a creative project home to their families. The Jesse Tree is a Catholic Tradition that helps us trace Jesus's lineage (the "family tree of Christ") from creation to His birth. It involves decorating a tree, real or artificial, with ornaments each day in Advent. These ornaments represent Bible stories and people. For example, an apple represents Adam & Eve, and an ark represents Noah. The bible passages are read each day as the tree is decorated. Pictured here is 3rd grade Religious Education student Harper F.



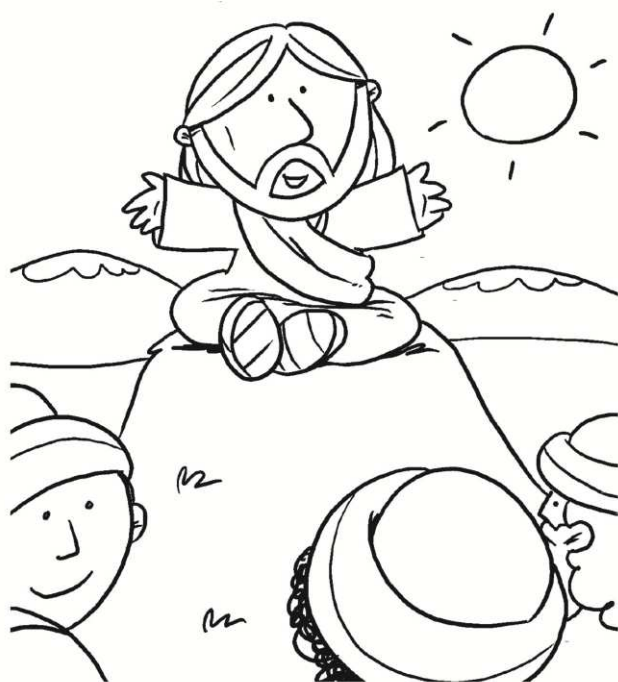
GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE A

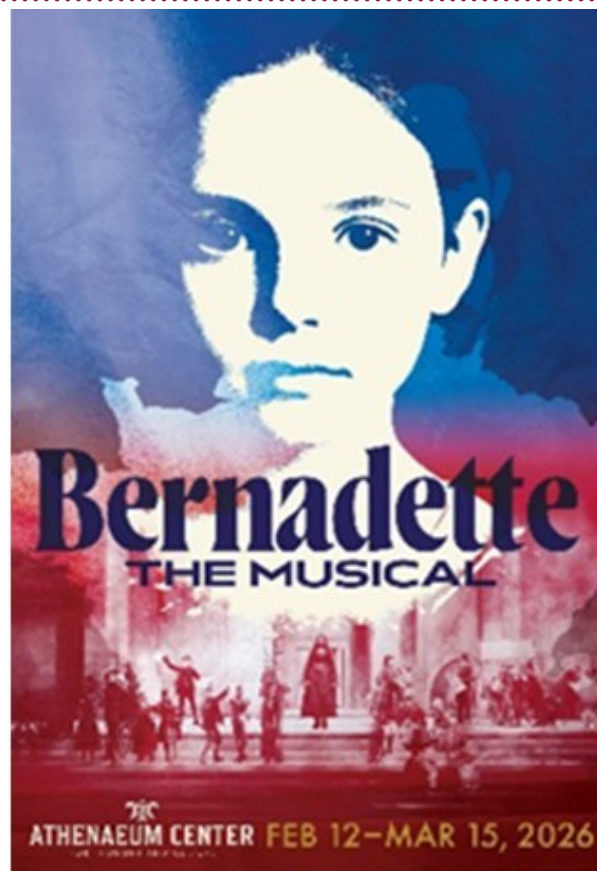


COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 5:1-12a



Bernadette, The Musical is a powerful and deeply moving theatrical production that brings to life the extraordinary story of Bernadette Soubirous, the young girl whose Marian apparitions in Lourdes in 1858, forever changed the spiritual landscape of the world.

Carmelite Shrine, Munster (NOON—5:30 PM)

\$65/person, Motorcoach Transportation, One Balcony Ticket
2:00 p.m. Performance (Athenaeum Center, Chicago)

Call Joe Cascone at 708-560-7767
or email: casconejoe@outlook.com

Parish Information

St. Thomas More Parish Website: www.stm-church.com

2025-2026 Pastoral Council

Chairperson: Michael Popovich

Vita Ayala • Mike Englert • Deborah Gena • Elaine Herrmann
Christi Kordeck • Bill McCullough • Lisa Mendoza • Claudia Pernal
Patty Queroz • Michael Sajn • Cindy Thompson

Parish Ministries & Organizations

WORSHIP

Altar Servers

Kathy Tolnai (708)212-7419

Environment & Art

Helen Jaworski (219)836-1833
Jim Landowski (708)204-4690

Eucharistic Adoration

Mona Hernandez (219)730-5860

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

James Kaspar (219)836-2343

Greeters

Lisa Mendoza (219)902-9688

Lectors

Richard Gard (219)614-7322

Livestream Ministry

Joann Hajduch (219)836-9151, 2245

Music Ministry

Angie VanManen (219)836-8610, 2338

Nursery

Ann Harkenrider (708)334-5228

Ushers

Al Gallagher (312)493-8457

GROW

Altar & Rosary

Kaaren Mashura (219)836-5079

Bible Study – Wed. AM

Cindy Keilman (219)923-9862

Bible Study – Thurs. PM

Denise Gard (219)201-4103

Bible Study – Parents

Natalie Rebholz (262)349-0572
Katie Lopez (765)427-3332

Grateful Hearts Widows Ministry

Elaine Herrmann (219)902-0702

Holy Name Society

PJ Caraher (219)680-6775

Live Christ Share Christ

Deacon Tabion (219)836-8610, 2318

RCIA

Deacon Joe Stodola (219)680-6775

Seniors of STM

Judy Hamer (219)836-7916

Small Groups

Daniel Maul (219)836-8610, Ext. 2415

T.G.I.F. Teen Ministry

Bernadine Barrett (219)781-1608

Vacation Bible School

Emily Hackett (219)836-8610, 2232

Vocation Guidance

PJ & Margaret Caraher (219)680-6775

SERVE

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Millions of Monicas

Carolyn Cenko (219)741-2509

Cooking for the Homeless

Steve Resler (219)765-9228

Gabriel Project

Denise Jones (219)616-5413

Garden Ministry

Bob Thomas (630)363-7978

Gifts of Love & Warmth

Bernadine Nemeth (219)513-6544

Knights of Columbus

Daniel Straka (219)427-6563

Mental Health Ministry

Julius Ballanco (219)689-1699

Ministry of Consolation

Susan Rousseau (219)743-8511

Pastoral Care of the Sick

James Kaspar (219)836-2343

Respect Life

Leslie Kaim (219)741-3739

Scouting

Girl: Cynthia Navarette (773)726-2411
Boy: Dustin Anderson (219)712-8752
Cub: Kandace Mack (708)415-4133

St. Joseph Soup Kitchen

Joy McCullough (219)838-4104

SVDP- Michael Martinelli

Themartinellis@att.net

COMMISSIONS

Formation/Education

Tim Jevyak (219)644-8932

Parish Life

Debra Harker (219)742-2773

Peace & Social Justice

Mari Casas (219)801-0615

Spirituality Worship

Joe Dubczak (708)214-2991

Stewardship

Paul Liszewski (219)781-0494

Sacramental Information

Confessions

Saturdays: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

First Friday: Half hour

before the 6:30 a.m. Mass

Marriage

Must be a registered, practicing member of the parish at least six months before beginning the six month program.

Communion Calls

Visits to Hospitals & Homes:

Call the Parish Office to schedule Sacraments for those in the hospital or homebound.

Baptisms

First & Third Sundays immediately following the noon Mass. Parents must be registered parishioners & regularly attending at least six months before the Baptism.

At least one of the godparents **must** be a practicing Catholic.

Pre-Baptism Class

2nd Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Parents must call the Parish Office to schedule class and/or Baptism.

New Parishioner Registration

New parishioners may register at any time in the Parish Office.

You may also visit the Information Table in the Narthex before or after Mass on weekends.

Please contact Daniel Maul with additional questions:
219-836-8610, Ext. 2415, dmaul@stm-church.com

Pastoral & Parish Staff

Pastor: Reverend Michael J. Yadron, KCHS

Ext. 2312 • myadron@stm-church.com

Senior Deacons: David Kapala, KHS • Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS

Deacon: Joseph Stodola, KHS

Website: stm-church.com

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. • Saturday 9:00 a.m.-Noon
(219) 836-8610 • eFax: (219) 533-4280 • Email: parish.office@stm-church.com

Dir. of Parish Mission

Noreen Bickel, Ext. 2330
nbickel@stm-church.com

Dir. of Ministries & Comm.

Krystal Quagliara, Ext. 2414
kquagliara@stm-church.com

Dir. of Finance & Operations

Charles Schimpf, Ext. 2329
cschimpf@stm-church.com

Dir. of Religious Education

Emily Hackett, Ext. 2232
ehackett@stm-school.com

Dir. of Music

Angie Van Manen: Ext. 2338
avanmanen@stm-church.com

Dir. of Discipleship

Daniel Maul, Ext. 2415
dmaul@stm-church.com

Parish Office Receptionist

Phyllis Krizmanic, Ext. 2300
pkrizmanic@stm-church.com

Building Maintenance

Contact the Parish Office or Charles Schimpf at Ext. 2329

Bulletin Editor

Krystal Quagliara, Ext. 2414
bulletin@stm-church.com

Custodial Supervisor

Kim Smith, Ext. 2331
ksmith@stm-church.com

St. Thomas More School

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Principal

Dr. Samantha Francis
Ext. 2258

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Gonzalez
Ext. 2200

Admissions

Pam Pasyk
Ext. 2309
ppasyk@stm-school.com

Business Manager

Maria Vega
Ext. 2339

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Questions?

Contact Maria Vega, Business Manager:

(219) 836-8610, #2339 or

mvega@stm-church.com

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January 18, 2026

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