



# ST. THOMAS MORE

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

MARCH 1, 2026 • SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

What were the reasons  
behind our Lenten  
resolutions?



## MASS INTENTIONS



### SUNDAY, March 1—Second Sunday of Lent

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Living & Deceased Members of Mercier & Constantino Families by Mercier Family
- 10:00 am Angela Burke by Family
- 12:00 pm John & Lottie Spudic by Phyllis Rueth

### MONDAY, March 2

- 6:30 am Nancy Kaczka by Joe & Eloise Janostak
- 8:30 am Bill Blaha, Jr. by John & Andrea Mudro

### TUESDAY, March 3

- 6:30 am Elizabeth Ann Slazyk by Altar & Rosary
- 8:30 am Charles Svitko by Michalik Family

### WEDNESDAY, March 4

- 6:30 am Joseph Richard Hemingway by Seniors of STM
- 8:30 am Leonard Grothouse (Anniv.) by Family

### THURSDAY, March 5

- 6:30 am Irene Renwald by Family & Friends
- 8:30 am Ann Schmid by Richard & Denise Gard

### FRIDAY, March 6

- 6:30 am Marjorie Skorupa by John Hull
- 8:30 am Cyril Moran by Family

### SATURDAY, March 7

- 8:30 am Laura Holda Wikel (Anniv.) by Family
- 5:30 pm Joseph Kwiatkowski (Anniv.) by Mr. & Mrs. John Gryn

### SUNDAY, March 8—Third Sunday of Lent

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Charlotte Natzke (Anniv.) by Marilyn Pajor
- 10:00 am Doris Dabrowski (Anniv.) by Daughter
- 12:00 pm Floyd George (Anniv.) by Mary Beth Michalak, Helen Wormsbecher, William & F. John George

—> **NEW Parish Office Hours** <—

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday 8:00 a.m.—Noon**

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](http://www.stm-church.com)

## OUR ACTIONS

**“The Lord measures out perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them.” ~ St. John of the Cross**

A week and a half ago, we began this holy season of Lent. It started on Ash Wednesday and we were marked on the forehead by a cross made from the ashes of burned palms. We heard the admonition, “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” On that day, we remembered our mortality.

Doing so, we were spurred on to enter the season with great honesty and humility. We made resolutions for ourselves, promising to forgo on some of the things that we enjoy as well as to do positive good by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

I remember an episode of *Touched By An Angel* where a man who was not quite good had seen the Angel of Death. He became frightened and began to do all sorts of good works all to earn favor with God so that he would not have to face the Angel of Death.

His actions were all for show and were quite selfish. He did not really care about people in need. He was just trying to buy his way into heaven.

After his eyes were opened, he began to live his life in an entirely different manner, not trying to impress the Lord and win heaven but merely trying to please the Lord and give Him praise.

I think St. John of the Cross would have been pleased with that episode because his sentiment says much the same thing. The Lord is not concerned with the multitude or magnitude of our deeds. The Lord is concerned with what is in our hearts as we carry out our deeds.

If we do the things we do for show or in a vain attempt to earn heaven, we are on the wrong course. If, however, we do the things that we do out of love for God, than no matter how great or small the deeds may be, God will be pleased.

What were the reasons behind our Lenten resolutions? Did we resolve to do the things we are doing for God's greater glory or for our own? Did we resolve to do the things that we are doing to make points with God or to serve God with all our hearts? It really does make a difference.

We are still early in the season. Examine the reasons behind your resolutions. If modifications need to be made, by all means do so. Let God know by your words and deeds throughout the holy season that your desire is to draw closer to Him and not for your own benefit.

**FAITH ACTION:** Pray for the grace to do the Lord's will. Encourage family and friends to hold firm to their Lenten resolve as well.

*F.n. 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:

March 4: Msgr. Robert B. Weis (1992)

## JESUS ACCEPTS HIS CROSS

One of the haunting songs of Lent is *Were You There? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you there?*

Truth be told, you were. I was. We were. It was our sins that necessitated Jesus' passion and death.

You are invited to reflect upon that at Stations of the Cross each Friday of Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the church.



## MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE CONFESSION IN YOUR LENT

It is important to cleanse our souls, especially during the Season of Lent as we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' triumph at Easter.

Confessions are heard every Saturday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is always a Carmelite priest who helps with confessions on Saturdays so you can be assured of less wait and of someone who may not know you if you're too nervous to come to the pastor.

Our Lenten Penance Service — when many priests are available — will be Tuesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 1st, “last chance confessions” will be available from 6:00 p.m. until there is no one left. There will be only one priest that evening so please try to go earlier in the season. (Taizé Prayer will be at 7:00 p.m. on that Wednesday as well.)

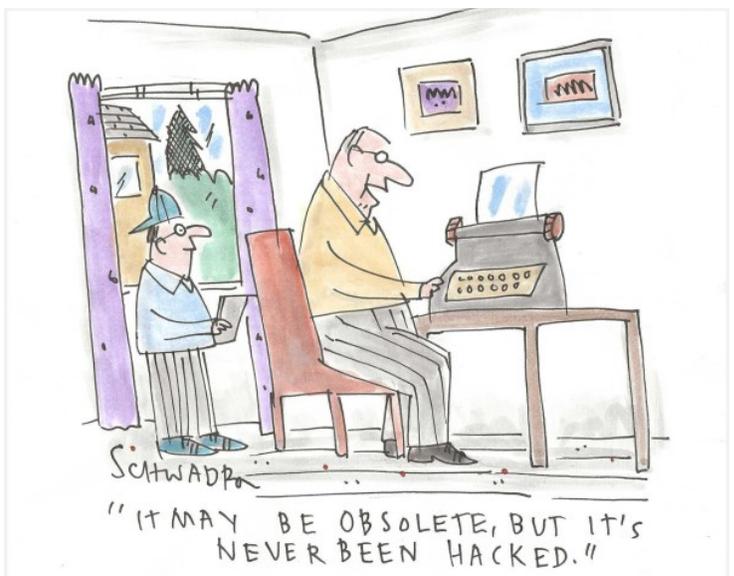
## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A man who had been away from the Church for some time went to confession right before Lent.

The man spoke rather excitedly, “Father, for Lent, I'm going to pray a whole bunch and I'm going do that thing, you know, where you give up food in between meals and avoid meat.

The priest responded, “You're going to fast?”

Misunderstanding, the man started again, saying much slower, “I'm... going... to... do... that... thing...”



## 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/42tadtyl>, 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  
Theresa Pecsek  
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 17:1-9

When I sit down to answer emails or write a Gospel reflection or return a phone call, I sometimes wonder: Does any of this humdrum work matter? Maybe you ask the same thing about your daily labor. Today's Gospel, the Transfiguration, offers a surprising answer.



Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain. There, **“his face shone like the sun face and his clothes become white as light” (Matthew 17:2)**. That detail regarding his clothes is worth considering.

We know Jesus' body is inseparably united to the divine nature. But his clothing? That's something made by human hands. It's an artifact. And yet it shines with the same uncreated light. What does this detail mean? The early Church noted that Adam and Eve's first act after the Fall was to make clothing. This clothing symbolizes all human labor that supports our dignity. In Jesus' glorified garments, we see not just the redemption of our body, but of human effort to protect and uplift human dignity.

Parents, your family is your work. Baristas, plumbers, nurses, accountants — your labor, your emails, your phone calls, your spreadsheets — can all become radiant when offered to God in love. The question isn't just do I believe in Jesus' glory, but do I believe he can share it with the work of my hands?

**Lenten Challenge:** Identify the “artifact” you are making to uplift the dignity of others: your job, your home, your relationships. Consciously bring it to the Lord this Sunday at Mass. Offer it to share in His glory. It will begin to shine.

Father John Muir  
©LPi

## Rest In Peace

*Francesco Ricchio*

*Rosemary Barker*



## Baptisms

*Beatrix Wildflower*

Daughter of Christian David & Melissa Nicole Moffitt

*William Robert*

Son of Robert Austin & Megan Elizabeth Sutter

*Joseph Charles*

Son of Wayne & Christina Ann Goding

*Ariana Stephanie*

Daughter of Paola Terraza

*Micah Ashton*

Son of Matthew Frank & Mackenzie Lynn Childs

## Readings Week of March 1

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/  
Mt 17:1-9  
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38  
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12  
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28  
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31  
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/  
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/  
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/  
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

## Prayer of the Faithful

*We Pray...*

*That we may learn the difference between what we want and what we need, trusting God will provide all that we need.*

## Weis Center • Parish Ministry Center

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

### Ministry Schedule

#### Monday, March 2

5:30 pm Parents Bible Study—Weis Center Room 101  
7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous—Weis Center Room 101

#### Tuesday, March 3

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

#### Wednesday, March 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  
6:30 pm Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107

#### Thursday, March 5

9:15 am Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107

#### Friday, March 6

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

#### Saturday, March 7

10:30 am Our Lady of Lourdes Secular Franciscans  
—Weis Center Room 101

#### Sunday, March 8

9:30 am Altar & Rosary Potluck Bunco—Weis Center Main Hall  
5:00 pm T.G.I.F. Teen Ministry—Weis Center Main Hall



### Celebrants

#### Saturday, March 7

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

#### Sunday, March 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, March 7th

5:30 p.m. MC— Alex, AS— X. Fonseca & M. Moya

#### Sunday, March 8th

8:00 a.m. MC—Derek, AS—A. & I. Tolnai & H. Jorsch  
10:00 a.m. MC—Sophia, AS—B. & T. Ogunyoye and R. Smola  
12:00 p.m. MC—Nina, AS—O. Mack

### Greeters Schedule for the Week

#### Saturday, March 7

5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Knight Family  
Chapel: Michelle Strimel  
Choir: Victor & Wendy Villareal

#### Sunday, March 8

6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: — Tanya Vasquez

8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Dave & Denise Jones  
Chapel: Maria Rodriguez  
Choir: Kathy Tolnai

10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Juliet Ogunyoye  
Chapel: Arturo & Claudia Mazon  
Choir: Michelle Walker

12:00 Noon Mass

Main: —

If you would like to be a Greeter, please contact

Lisa Mendoza

718mendoza@gmail.com



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

### Add these dates to your calendar:

#### Sunday 3/1/2026

9:15 a.m. Before the Bell Mental Health Discussion—Chapel

#### Monday 3/2/2026

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

#### Wednesdays 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 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

#### Fridays 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 & 3/27/2026

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the church

#### 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

#### Sunday 3/8/2026

11:00 a.m. Altar & Rosary Potluck Bunco—Weis Center

#### Tuesday 3/24/2026

7:00 p.m. Lenten Penance Service—STM Church

#### Sunday 3/29/2026

Palm Sunday Regular Weekend Mass Schedule  
Sat. @ 5:30 pm  
Sun. @ 6:30 am, 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12 noon

## Stewardship REFLECTION

### Second Sunday of Lent

*"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you." GENESIS 12:1*

God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet, God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful."

DISCIPLESHIP  
*discipulado*

OUTREACH  
*alcance*

VOCATIONS  
*vocaciones*



CATHOLIC  
SERVICES  
APPEAL  
*Partners in Christ's Mission*

**Our 2026  
Parish Goal:  
\$350,000**



*Let's surpass our goal!*

Scan to give, use a donation card or visit [give.dcgary.org](http://give.dcgary.org) |  
*Escanear para dar, usar una tarjeta de donación o visitar [give.dcgary.org](http://give.dcgary.org)*

## It's CSA Kickoff Weekend

Fr. Mike is speaking at all the Masses this weekend as we kickoff the *Catholic Services Appeal* for 2026. Firstly, **thank you** for your generous support of the 2025 campaign.

We invite everyone to participate in the campaign this year as we look ahead to the future of our diocese and parish!

Diocesan Goal: \$141,676  
Parish Rebate Goal: \$208,324

## Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m.

St. Thomas More Church

(3/6, 3/13, 3/20 & 3/27)



## 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).*



*Join the Seniors to learn about Food Prep and Safety at our March 4th meeting. Learn some new facts with the group for an informed and social meeting.*



**Wednesday, March 4th**  
**1:00 p.m. Weis Center**  
Speaker: Linda Curley,  
Purdue Extension  
Topic: Food Preparation



**Wednesday, March 18th**  
**12:00 p.m. Weis Center**  
Potluck Luncheon  
A—L (last names) : Dessert  
M—Z (last names) : Side Dish or Salad



**Sunday, March 22nd**  
**10:00 a.m.—STM Church**  
Mass For Our Deceased Members  
*Please join us at this special Mass to remember and pray for our deceased members.*

## Altar & Rosary Society's Pot Luck Bunco

**Sunday, March 8th at 11:00 am  
In the Main Hall at the Weis Center**

We will begin reciting the Rosary at 11:15 a.m.

*Ladies attending are asked to bring their  
Favorite Main Dish, Salad or Dessert.*

Please call in your Reservation at the  
Church Office 1-219-836-8610 by March 5, 2026.

For Questions, call Kaaren at 219-836-5079.

### *Lent Almsgiving - St. Vincent DePaul Pantry*



Next time you are at the grocery store, consider picking up a few extra items in your cart for St. Vincent de Paul. Drop off locations are in the main entrance of the church and inside the parish office.

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!

## ST. THOMAS MORE HOLY NAME SOCIETY FISH FRY



**Friday March 6th  
4:30 - 7:00 PM**



### MENU

**\$17.00 - Beer Battered Cod**

**\$5.00 Mac & Cheese Side**

**All dinners include Tater Tots, Mac & Cheese + a Salad Bar**

*Carryout is Available*

**Friday, March 6, 2026**

**4:30—7:30 PM**

**STM School Gymnasium**

## The March Nursery Schedule

**The Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass Nursery**

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

**March 1—** Ann & Katie Harkenrider and Chloe Sheehan

**March 8—** Rachel and Amelia Perezchica

**March 15—** Kaaren Mashura & Giuliana Diaz

**March 22—** Jennifer and Oliver Anderson

**March 29—** Susie, Finn and Kian Kinsella

### 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.



# St. Thomas More School



## Catholic Schools Week 2026

St. Thomas More School joins over 8,800 other Catholic schools nationwide to celebrate Catholic School Week, acclaiming the exceptional education, faith formation, service to others and leadership opportunities Catholic school provides. Each year during CSW, we honor a member of the St. Thomas More School staff who has lovingly served our students with kindness, wisdom, hard work and dedication and has continually been a shining example of strong Catholic values for our students to emulate. We are happy to announce this year's

### 2026 Staff Member of the Year:

*Joann Hajduch*

Joann Hajduch has worn many hats at St. Thomas More over the years. Her very first "hat" was as a St. Thomas More parishioner, joining STM when her family moved to Munster many years ago. Transitioning into "school parent mode" when her daughters were STMS students, Joann spent many hours volunteering at the school. She was a recess monitor, the Assistant Athletic Director and helped wherever and whenever asked with a variety of other tasks. Her professional background and knowledge in computer science and technology filled a teaching gap at St. Tom's, and Joann switched roles again to teach



computer classes for five years, offering students a fun space to learn, explore and work on cross-curricular assignments as she collaborated with other teachers.

Fast forward to her current position as Technology Manager for our school. Joann is called on regularly to problem solve, find new and innovative ways for teachers to integrate the latest technology into classroom lessons, train staff and streamline tech platforms to be more user friendly for both students and staff.

Sharing her love of technology, Joann initiated the school's Media Club, working with students to create & edit videos and tape & photograph school events for all to enjoy.

You will also find Joann live-streaming many weekday Masses and she volunteers as the Live Stream Mass Coordinator/Trainer for St. Thomas More Church.

As a child, she fondly remembers one of her father's favorite sayings, "Anything worth doing is worth doing right." She has clearly taken those words of wisdom to heart by working hard and finding joy in each day at St. Thomas More



School, gaining energy from our enthusiastic students and the supportive staff around her.

She gains great gratification witnessing the moment a student or colleague can problem solve or discover something new about technology.

When not working or volunteering, Joann loves to read, craft, bike and swim, but her favorite pastime is spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren Clara and Peter. Joann and husband, Michael, share three daughters, Kim (Lucas), Melissa (Justin) and Allison (fiancé Albert), all STMS graduates who have followed their parent's lead on the importance of having God and faith in their daily lives. From Joann, "Catholic school provided our children with the opportunity to expand their knowledge, foster community, cultivate a moral compass, and come to know God all in one."

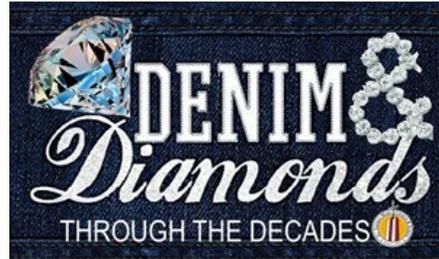
Thank you, Joann, for all you continue to do for STMS and its students!

## Denim & Diamonds

All are invited to join fellow parishioners and school parents for an adult evening of great food & fun, libations & dancing.

**Friday, April 10**

**6:00-11:00 p.m. in the STM Gym**



Support Our Event or Purchase Tickets

## Donations & Sponsors Requested

St. Thomas More School is currently seeking Event Sponsors and donated items for our fabulous Online Auction.

### Items Needed:

#### Gift Certificates for:

- Dining, Beauty, Retailers, Theaters, Activities & Events
- Professional or Collegiate Sporting Event Tickets, Sports Equipment or Golf Packages
- Tech Devices, Kitchen Aide Mixer, Camping Equipment, Yeti Cooler, Handbags, Leaf Blower, Tools/Gadgets or Jewelry

Donated items can be dropped off at the Parish Office or text, call or email Andrea Leahy: (574) 339-0020 or

[aleahy1518@gmail.com](mailto:aleahy1518@gmail.com)

or Pam Pasyk: [ppasyk@stm-school.com](mailto:ppasyk@stm-school.com)



**Tickets: Only \$10**

Purchase tickets in the Parish Office or an STMS student.

**Grand Prize: \$5,000**

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

**Get Tickets Next Weekend After Mass!**

**Saturday, March 7 & Sunday, March 8**

Drawing at Trivia Night on Saturday, March 14, 2026

Hurry! Get your tickets! You can't win if you don't play! Only 2 weeks left.



# “I’m Catholic... we don’t talk about our faith.”

Daniel Maul, Director of Discipleship

Growing up, I thought all Catholics often spoke openly about their Christian faith, because my parents did, and they’re Catholic. All I knew was that both of my parents were Catholic: we all went to Mass together, and everyone took Communion. It wasn’t until I was older that I realized what the implications, of my maternal grandmother being raised Baptist and my father, himself, being Lutheran, until he was about thirty years old, were.



I eventually realized that our frequent conversations about faith in Jesus Christ, grace, prayer, salvation, redemption, and scripture, were *probably* due to the Protestant influences in my family background. Apparently, my Catholic parents weren’t “typical” Catholic parents. I guess.

I *don’t* believe that this reticence, on the part of many Catholics, to talk about their faith is evidence that they, by and large, lack real Christian faith. No, I attribute it to other factors that come from a good place, actually, a humble place, even.

I think that most Catholics don’t realize just how much of the faith they really know. They know, for example, that Jesus taught people to love God and love neighbor, to forgive others, to help the poor, to be patient and kind, and to put their faith and trust in God. That’s really good stuff. Nonetheless, because Catholics *usually* can’t quote scripture, explain Church doctrine, or articulate why we teach that it’s immoral to do certain things, many of us believe that we aren’t “expert” enough to talk about the faith. So, we just don’t.

I think Catholics are often scared that we’ll look like illogical, unreasonable people, if we talk about our faith all the time. We, Catholics, use our brains. We believe that faith and reason work together. We don’t believe that science contradicts our faith, and we don’t stop thinking, in order to be faithful Christians. Some Christians of other denominations *appear* to do otherwise, and we don’t want to present ourselves like that. There’s nothing wrong with that. Christians disagree about some things, and we can operate differently.

Most Catholics don’t want to “bash people over the head” with their faith. I think we have this concern, because we really do respect other people and accept them and their beliefs. We don’t want to make people feel uncomfortable or bad for not having Christian faith.

Many Catholics would rather let their behavior reveal their faith, than rely on words to do it. Phrases like, “Talk is cheap,” and “the road to hell is paved with good intentions,” often ring in our ears. Some of us were taught that Saint Francis of Assisi said, “Preach the Gospel wherever you go. Use words only when necessary.” I sure was, and he sure didn’t, evidently.

Let us try to “throw caution to the wind,” take a risk, and try talking about our Christian faith, in the somewhat nonreligious corners of our lives: maybe with family and friends, in the neighborhood and community, at work, and, sometimes even, at church. Open yourself to the Holy Spirit, and see what the Lord can say *through* you! I know. *It is hard to believe.*

## Lenten Events

Mark Your Calendar for these upcoming events and opportunities for prayer this Lent

### Eucharistic Adoration

9:00 AM—12:00 PM First Fridays  
5:00-7:00 PM Monday Evenings

### Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM—Fridays in Lent (Accept Good Friday)

### Holy Name Society Fish Fry

Friday, March 6, 4:30—7:00 PM

### Penance Service

Tuesday, March 24h at 7:00 PM

### Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesday, April 1st at 7:00 PM  
Confessions starting at 6:00 PM

### Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM

### Good Friday—April 3rd

Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion—1:30 PM  
Tenebrae Prayer Service—7:00 PM

### Holy Saturday—April 4th

Blessing of Easter Baskets—2:00 PM  
Vigil Mass of Easter—8:00 PM

### Easter Sunday—April 5th

Masses at 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Hallow

Pray every  
day this Lent

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## 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

### March Schedule

March 4/5	Class
March 11/12	Class
March 18/19	Class
March 25/26	Class

### April Schedule

<b>April 1/2</b>	<b>NO CLASS—HOLY WEEK</b>
April 8/9	Class
April 15/16	Class
<b>April 22/23</b>	<i>Last Class for all but First Communicants</i>
<b>April 29/30</b>	First Communion Practice— ALL Wed & Thurs First Communion students attend both nights

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent • Matthew 17:1-9



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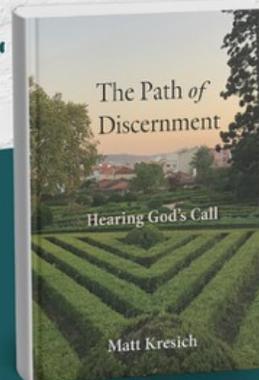


Pickup: Sunday, March 29th  
12:30—2:00 p.m.  
Weis Center Main Hall

[Zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-easter-pierogi-sale](http://Zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-easter-pierogi-sale)

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# Parish Information

St. Thomas More Parish Website: [www.stm-church.com](http://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 Sajin • 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)689-1001

#### 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

#### Circle of Prayer &

#### 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

2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:dmaul@stm-church.com)

## Pastoral & Parish Staff

### Pastor: Reverend Michael J. Yadron, KCHS

Ext. 2312 • [myadron@stm-church.com](mailto:myadron@stm-church.com)

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

Deacon: Joseph Stodola, KHS

### Website: [stm-church.com](http://stm-church.com)

Office Hours: M, T, Th, F 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. • Wed. 8:00 a.m.—Noon  
• Saturday 9:00 a.m.-Noon

(219) 836-8610 • eFax: (219) 533-4280 • Email: [parish.office@stm-church.com](mailto:parish.office@stm-church.com)

### Dir. of Parish Mission

Noreen Bickel, Ext. 2330  
[nbickel@stm-church.com](mailto:nbickel@stm-church.com)

### Dir. of Ministries & Comm.

Krystal Quagliara, Ext. 2414  
[kquagliara@stm-church.com](mailto:kquagliara@stm-church.com)

### Dir. of Finance & Operations

Charles Schimpf, Ext. 2329  
[cschimpf@stm-church.com](mailto:cschimpf@stm-church.com)

### Dir. of Religious Education

Emily Hackett, Ext. 2232  
[ehackett@stm-school.com](mailto:ehackett@stm-school.com)

### Dir. of Music

Angie Van Manen: Ext. 2338  
[avanmanen@stm-church.com](mailto:avanmanen@stm-church.com)

### Dir. of Discipleship

Daniel Maul, Ext. 2415  
[dmaul@stm-church.com](mailto:dmaul@stm-church.com)

### Parish Office Receptionist

Phyllis Krizmanic; Ext. 2300  
[pkrizmanic@stm-church.com](mailto: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](mailto:bulletin@stm-church.com)

### Custodial Supervisor

Kim Smith, Ext. 2331  
[ksmith@stm-church.com](mailto:ksmith@stm-church.com)

## St. Thomas More School

### National Blue Ribbon School • Preschool to 8th Grade

School Office: (219) 836-9151 • M-F: 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. • [stm-school.com](http://stm-school.com)

### Principal

Dr. Samantha Francis  
Ext. 2258

### Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Gonzalez  
Ext. 2200

### Admissions

Pam Pasyk  
Ext. 2309  
[ppasyk@stm-school.com](mailto:ppasyk@stm-school.com)

### Business Manager

Maria Vega  
Ext. 2339

## Automatic Offering Make Life Easier with Automated Contributions to Our Parish

Rather than weekly envelopes, you may find it easier to make your regular parish contributions via our online system. Each time you donate, St. Thomas More Parish benefits from contributions to support our ministries, programs and facilities. Follow the instructions below if you, too, would like to utilize our online system.

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Donate online through our parish website by using PayPal/debit/credit  
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### Questions?

Contact Maria Vega, Business Manager:  
(219) 836-8610, #2339 or  
[mvega@stm-church.com](mailto:mvega@stm-church.com)

No matter how you give, your contributions to STM are appreciated



## Sacrificial Offerings

February 15, 2026

Regular	\$19,477.00
Loose	\$2,033.00
Children	\$7.00
Automated	\$7,201.56
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,718.56</b>

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