



# ST. THOMAS MORE

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

MARCH 15, 2026 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



The more details you come to understand, the more clearly Jesus Christ will come into focus. He is waiting for you — in all the details.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, March 15—Fourth Sunday of Lent

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Elaine Caco by Family
- 10:00 am Stephen Rousseau by Wife Susan
- 12:00 pm Margareta Buczkowski by Jenny & Josh Herold

### MONDAY, March 16

- 6:30 am Juanita "Louise" Younkers by Altar & Rosary
- 8:30 am Edward Smosna by Diane Smosna & Family

### TUESDAY, March 17

- 6:30 am Gloria Cicirale by Kathy Hutzcel
- 8:30 am John Gryn by Phylis Budaiz

### WEDNESDAY, March 18

- 6:30 am Intention of Deacon David Kapala by Deacon David Kapala
- 8:30 am John Jurkash (Anniv.) by Family

### THURSDAY, March 19— Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 6:30 am Debbie Edders by Linda Rescan
- 8:30 am Chet Milen by Family

### FRIDAY, March 20

- 6:30 am John J. O'Keefe by Odegaard Family
- 8:30 am Mr. & Mrs. James Kaczka by Family

### SATURDAY, March 21

- 8:30 am Henrietta Kaminski by Don & Marie Karulski
- 5:30 pm Maguerite Grothouse (Anniv.) by Family

### SUNDAY, March 22—Fifth Sunday of Lent

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Jeanne Serafin (Anniv.) by Corrine Nosich
- 10:00 am Violet Jurich by Tom & Louisa Jurich
- 12:00 pm Dorothy Dubeck (Anniv.) by Carol & Jack Waters

### —> 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)

## THE NARRATIVE OF OUR FAITH

**“Detail exists for only one reason, to uphold the narrative reality of the story being told.” ~ Joe Rohde**

Today’s quote was taken from one of my favorite people. Joe Rohde might not be known by a lot of people. However, if you are in to Disney like I am in to Disney, you will recognize his name among some of the greatest of the Walt Disney Imagineers.

Joe had been instrumental in bringing many aspects of the parks to life. He was the driving creative force behind Pandora in Disney’s Animal Kingdom.

Detail, to Joe, was everything. If you have ever gone to The Animal Kingdom and went to Harambe Village to do the safari, you will see their original theme work.

Joe made sure that Disney brought people over from Africa just to thatch the roofs of the buildings so that the “village” would be as authentic as possible. Rohde’s mantra? Detail is everything. And, as Joe Rohde stated, detail is what drives and upholds the narrative reality. Without detail, the story ceases to exist.

So it is with our faith. Detail is so very important.

Some people, sadly, live on the fringes of the details of our faith narrative. They barely know the stories of our faith. They may just know certain prayers, sometimes not even enough to follow along in Church.

Their minimal knowledge of the details of the faith contribute to their drifting away because the story of Jesus Christ just does not make sense to them. It does not hold their interest. They are too busy paying attention to the details of the world.

We are deep into the season of Lent. This holy season is rich in detail, yet many may not even know it. They may barely comprehend the rules and regulations of Lent (fasting and abstinence) but not really understand why we do what we do. Stations of the Cross and other devotions might be totally foreign to them.

If the faith is going to have any meaning to us at all, we need to know the details of it. Dig into the faith. Read as much as you can. Watch inspirational movies. Read inspirational books. Go to a variety of Lenten services and participate in them. Ask questions along the way if you are unfamiliar with what we do or why we do it.

The more details you come to understand, the more clearly Jesus Christ will come into focus. He is waiting for you — in all the details.

**FAITH ACTION:** If there are aspects of your faith about which you know you are unclear, do all that you can to learn about them so that you may know the Lord as completely as possible.

*F.A. 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 16: Rev. Matthew G. Spebar (1979)  
March 19: Rev. Milan F. Bach (1995)



## THE BISHOP IS COMING! THE BISHOP IS COMING!

Rather than the warning that Paul Revere gave the people when he proclaimed that the British were coming, this is an announcement for you that our bishop is coming to St. Thomas More to celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s Supper with us on Holy Thursday evening, April 2nd, at 7:00 p.m.

## AS EASTER APPROACHES

These are times/occasions for you to note as Easter nears:

### Tuesday, March 24

Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 1

6:00 p.m. until finished - “Last minute confessions”  
7:00 p.m. - Taizé Prayer

### Holy Thursday, April 2

7:00 p.m. - Mass of the Lord’s Supper  
Bishop McClory will be the celebrant

### Good Friday, April 3

1:30 p.m. - Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion  
7:00 p.m. - Tenebrae Prayer Service

### Holy Saturday, April 4

2:00 p.m. - Blessing of Easter Baskets  
8:00 p.m. - Vigil Mass of Easter

### Easter Sunday, April 5

6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., & 12:00 Noon Masses

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

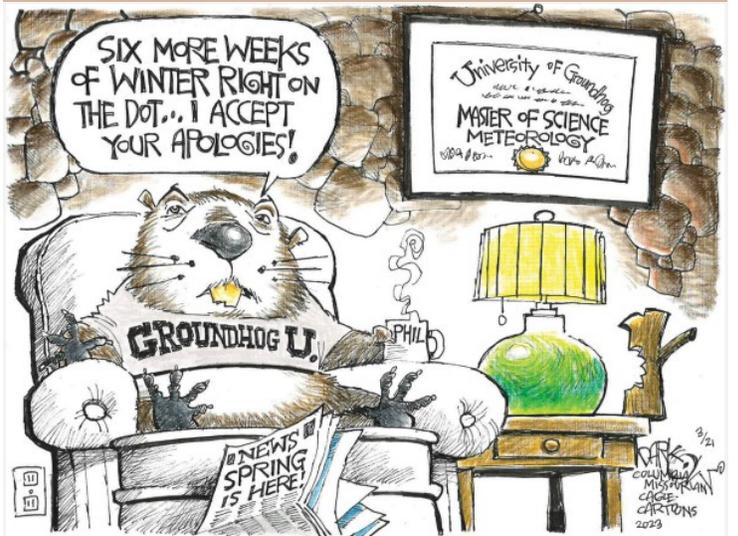
A teacher asked her student, “If you had ten dollars and you asked your father for ten dollars, how many dollars would you have?”

The student thought about it briefly and then replied, “Ten dollars.”

The teacher responded, “That’s incorrect. I don’t think you know your math very well.”

To which the student replied, “No. You don’t know my father very well.”

## Spring begins Friday. Just sayin’



## 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/42tadlyn>, 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 Czapkowitz  
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 Hesek  
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  
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  
Judith Zawada

## Gospel Reflection John 9:1-41

If you are like me, it's easy to fixate on our shadows: failures, guilt, shame. Especially when we suffer, it is easy to want to blame ourselves or others. In this week's Gospel, Jesus' disciples ask about the blind man, "**Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents?**" (John 9:2) They, like us, focus on blame. But Jesus sees the entire situation differently: "**Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.**" He does not deny sin, but he sees deeper — through the light of mercy, not the lens of judgment. The scene hinges on Jesus' strange claim: "**I am the light of the world**" (John 9:5). He sees things differently than everyone. They see shadows and light. He is the light.



Thought experiment: imagine you are the sun looking at everything on the earth. What do you see? Everything. What do you *not* see? Shadows. Everything is illuminated. If you see it, it is illuminated. For the light, nothing is dark.

Because he is the light, Jesus sees us in the glow of his redemptive love. Even our sin becomes a place where his glory can shine. The man's healing is not just about sight — it is about seeing as Christ sees. Lent is not a season of staring into darkness. It is a time to step into the light — to let Christ's gaze reframe how we see ourselves and one another.

**Lenten challenge:** Spend 10 quiet minutes this week asking Jesus to show you how he sees you. Not through shame or fear, but through the light of his mercy.

Father John Muir  
©LPi

## Readings Week of March 15

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/  
Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38  
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/  
Jn 4:43-54  
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16  
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30  
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/  
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53  
Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1

## Prayer of the Faithful

*We Pray...*

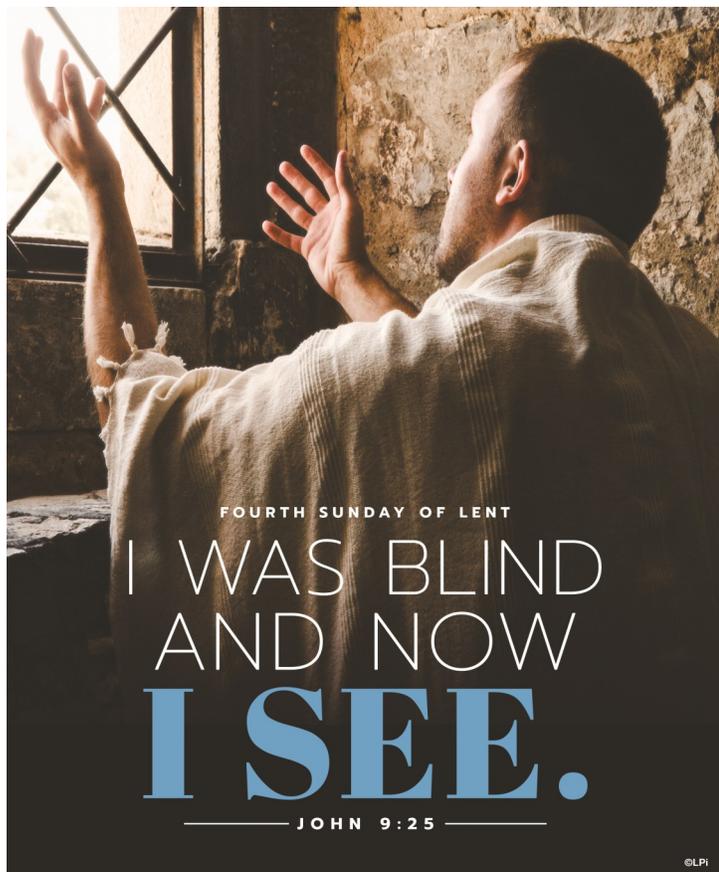
*That we are less concerned about our outward appearance and more concerned with our interior conversion of heart.*



*Rest In Peace*



*Manuel Casas*



## Weis Center • Parish Ministry Center

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

### Ministry Schedule

#### Monday, March 16

5:30 pm Parents Bible Study—Weis Center Room 101  
7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous—Weis Center Room 101  
7:00 pm Holy Name Society—Weis Center Room 102

#### Tuesday, March 17

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

#### Wednesday, March 18

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study—Weis Center Rm 101  
12:00 pm Seniors of STM Potluck—Weis Center Main Hall  
5:30 pm Cub Scouts—Weis Center Main Hall  
6:30 pm Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107

#### Thursday, March 19

9:15 am Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107  
5:00 pm Girl Scouts #15574—Weis Center Main Hall

#### Friday, March 20

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



### Celebrants

#### Saturday, March 21

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

#### Sunday, March 22

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 21

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

#### Sunday, March 22

8:00 a.m. MC—Derek, AS—A. & L. Jara and K. Karl  
10:00 a.m. MC—Sophia, AS—C. Dagholor, K. Orozco & A. Sudac  
12:00 p.m. MC—Lukas, AS—O. Mack

### Greeters Schedule for the Week

#### Saturday, March 21

5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Miles Sepiol & Jo Ann Karr

Chapel: Kimberly Eurlay

Choir: —

#### Sunday, March 22

6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: Mary Jo Jez

8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Sue & Dick Wilson

Chapel: Donna Weidenfeller

Choir: Christi & Katie Kordeck

10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Jose & Paula Serrano

Chapel: Diann Adley

Choir: —

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:

#### Wednesdays 3/18 & 3/25/2026

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

#### Thursdays 3/19 & 3/26/2026

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

#### Fridays 3/20 & 3/27/2026

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

#### Tuesday 3/24/2026

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

#### Sunday 3/29/2026

Palm Sunday Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

#### Wednesday 4/1/2026

6:00 p.m. (until finished) Confessions—STM Church  
7:00 p.m. Taize Prayer Service—STM Church

#### Thursday 4/2/2026

7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass of The Lord's Supper  
Bishop McClory the Celebrant

#### Friday 4/3/2026

1:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion—STM Church  
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Prayer Service—STM Church

#### Saturday 4/4/2026

2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Easter Baskets—STM Church  
8:00 p.m. The Vigil Mass of Easter

#### Sunday 4/5/2026

Easter Sunday Sun. @ 6:30 am, 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12 noon

## Stewardship REFLECTION

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

*"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7*

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

## What are they discussing at the Lenten Study & Share Series?

Daniel Maul, Director of Discipleship

Over the past two weeks, our groups have studied and discussed, in small table-groups, a number of, what author Matthew Kelly calls, the “pillars” of Catholic spirituality. Thus far, the topics have been Confession, Fasting, Daily Prayer, and the Rosary.



I've been getting quite a bit of valuable feedback from participants, some of which I'd like to share, in this space. I've heard that some groups were more comfortable discussing, for example, Confession over Fasting. This is probably because we're more familiar with confessing our sins than we are with fasting religiously. That's unfortunate, because fasting is an ancient *Catholic* practice that seems to be most popular among Evangelical Protestants, nowadays. I've also heard that the book has been very helpful, in terms of guiding people to treasure the basics of the faith and their foundational role in it. Numerous people have said that they wouldn't have read the book, if not for this series. But, they're very glad that they now are. Participants are also feeling challenged to do what is necessary to keep their own Christian faith vibrant and dynamic in their lives.

In addition to encouraging us to live and develop our Catholic spirituality and faith, the book is meant to challenge us, and we're not always comfortable being challenged. Sometimes, we push back against hearing the ways in which we live being critiqued. Sometimes, we respond with questions like, “Who does this guy think he is to tell me this?” “What are his credentials?” “He's not a priest. Why is *he* telling us what to do?” But, if the messenger is being true to the Gospel message and the teachings of the Church, then the challenge does not come from the person, but, rather, from Jesus Christ. We have to allow Jesus to challenge us, no matter His messenger, so long as the message is truly Christ's. A challenge is not a put down; a critique is not a criticism. Matthew Kelly argues that in order to move towards something (or, rather, someone: God), we also have to move away from something, namely, sin. This isn't easy, and it requires self-critique, self-denial, and self-control: all things that are not presently encouraged by our contemporary American culture.

Humility is a Christian virtue of core importance to living the faith. Humiliation and shame are not of God, nor are they good. But, appropriate guilt and sincere humility are, and living the Christian life requires them of us. One participant told me that it had been forty years since the person's last confession, but because of being inspired by the book and series, this person recently went to the sacrament and was so happy to have done so. This individual clearly wants to be holy.

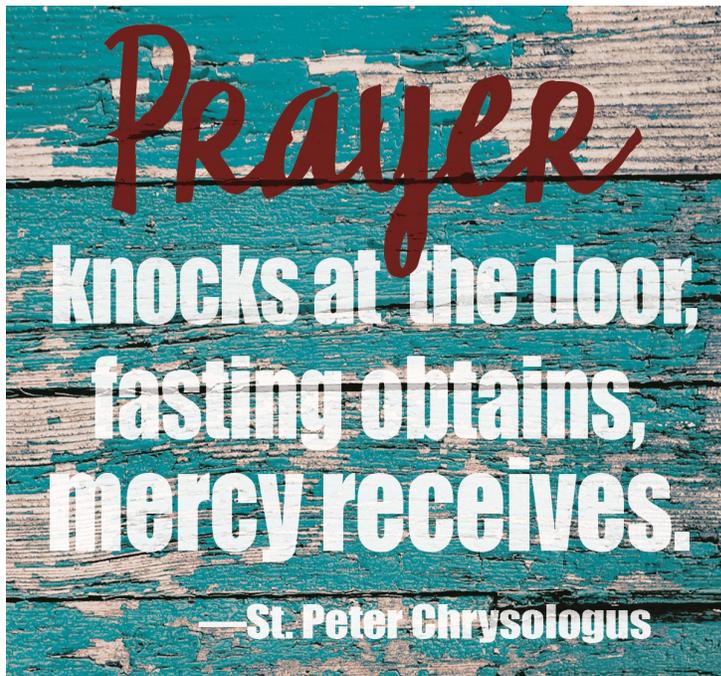
Please consider joining us; it's not too late. Our sessions are held in the Weis Center, meeting on:

Wednesdays (6:30-8:00 PM)

and repeated on

Thursday mornings (9:15-10:45 AM),

throughout the rest of Lent.



### 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!

DISCIPLESHIP  
*discipulado*

OUTREACH  
*alcance*

VOCATIONS  
*vocaciones*



CATHOLIC  
SERVICES  
APPEAL  
*Partners in Christ's Mission*

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

## CSA 2026

For this year's CSA rebate, the parish plans to use funds to replace the carpeting throughout the church and begin renovations on the Narthex (main entrance of the church).

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



*Let's surpass our goal!*

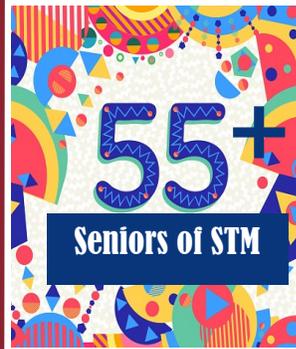
Scan to give, use a donation card or visit [give.dcgary.org](http://give.dcgary.org) |  
*Escanear para dar, usar una tarjeta de donación o visitar [give.dcgary.org](http://give.dcgary.org)*



## Stations of the Cross

Friday 3/20 & 3/27 in Lent at 7:00 p.m.

St. Thomas More Church



## 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).*

*Thank you to everyone who joined us to learn about Food Prep Safety. We certainly learned a lot! Apply that new knowledge as you prepare a dish for our upcoming potluck lunch!*



**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.*

## UPDATING YOUR DIRECTORY LISTING

—> ATTENTION <—

We will be sending out a letter in the U.S. Mail as well as an email with a request for you to:

- Update your database listing information (Name, Address, Phone & Email)
- Confirm the information you want listed in the Parish Directory (at the back of the photo directory)

If we do not receive a response from you within **BY APRIL 15th** we will assume all information is correct and will publish in the directory.



March 15, 2026

# St. Thomas More School



## Congratulations Boys Basketball

A big congratulations to our St. Thomas More School 7th Grade Boys Basketball Team, who completed a great basketball season as the Diocesan CYO Championship Runner-Up in last month's championship game. We admire the dedication and athletic skill of these boys, but are most proud of their great sportsmanship, team work and dedication to their school and one another. Thank you, Coaches, for helping our students excel on the court of play and off. Well done, boys!



## STMS Proud

Bishop Noll Institute has announced its Class of 2026 Graduates with Distinction. Among the top grads are STMS Class of 2022 alumnae Regan McCabe & Abigail Buksa. Your alma mater is so proud of you! Congrats!



## 100 Days of School

Celebrating the 100th day of the school year, Preschool & Pre-K students dressed up as their 100 year-old selves, complete with gray hair, canes, glasses & cardigans for a super fun day.



## Science in 3D

The STMS 2nd grade recently studied animals and their habitats, a favorite topic for all the students. Using their ingenuity & some cross-curricular study, students created a diorama for their favorite animal.



## Help Wanted

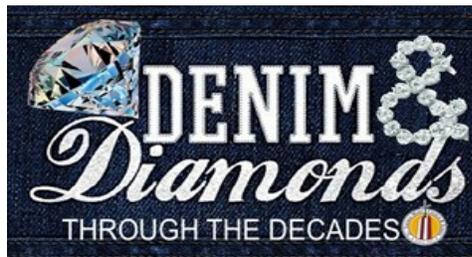
*Come join our fabulous staff!*  
**Evening Custodian**

This position will have you working throughout the school building to keep classrooms & common areas clean and safe for our students. Evening Hours. Part-time. Perfect for the person who needs their days free. Learn more by contacting Kim Smith: [ksmith@stm-school.com](mailto:ksmith@stm-school.com).



### Thank You!

Our deepest thanks to all who purchased tickets for our STMS 2026 Cash Raffle. Winners will be announced in next week's bulletin.



## Denim & Diamonds

You are invited to join fellow parishioners, friends & 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**

Heavy Appetizers • Beer/Wine Ticket  
Music & Dancing • Activities • Online Auction

### Donate!

We are extremely grateful to anyone who can donate a restaurant or store gift card, event tickets, items or services for our popular Denim & Diamond Online Auction.

### Sponsor!

Event Sponsorship is a great way to advertise your business! Lots of price points available. Marketed to 3,000+ alumni, parishioners and school families.

### Join Us!

You don't have to go any farther than the STMS Gym for a great evening of fun with some great people. Use the QR code to get your tickets now!



**Support Our Event!**  
**Sponsor or Purchase Tickets Now**

Drop off donations at the Parish Office or contact Andrea Leahy at [aleahy1518@gmail.com](mailto:aleahy1518@gmail.com) or Pam Pasyk: [ppasyk@stm-school.com](mailto:ppasyk@stm-school.com) for info.  
**To Sponsor or Purchase Tickets Use QR or [diamonds2026.givesmart.com](https://diamonds2026.givesmart.com)**

## MASS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

With Bishop Robert J. McClory

11:00 a.m.  
Sunday, March 22, 2026

**Cathedral of the Holy Angels**  
640 Tyler St., Gary

**Lunch to follow.**

Send questions to:  
aim4inclusion@gmail.com

RSVP at   
dgary.org/  
2026-AIM-Mass 



**Help AIM serve you better!**  
Please take a short survey from AIM.  
tinyurl.com/7jrypz7



## “Heat & Eat” Easter Meals Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine (Merrillville, IN)

Let the catering team at the Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine’s Millennium Hall help you with your Easter menu!

The heat-and-eat dinner items include chicken cutlets, BBQ ribs, tenderized beef with mushrooms, potatoes, sauerkraut, potato dumplings, cucumber salad and red cabbage salad.

Orders are \$20/per person (minimum of 10) and are due by April 1st.

Pickup will be from 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on April 5th (Easter Sunday) at Millennium Hall, located on the grounds of Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine  
5755 Pennsylvania St., Merrillville, IN

For more information or to place an order, call:  
Stasia 708-205-8324 or  
Zosia 708-267-5603



### EASTER MENU

**MEATS**  
BREADED CHICKEN CUTLET  
BBQ RIBS  
TENDERIZED BEEF WITH MUSHROOMS

**WARM SIDES**  
POTATOS  
SAUERKRAUT  
POTATO DUMPLINGS

**COLD SIDES**  
CUCUMBER SALAD  
RED CABBAGESALAD

**\$20 PER PERSON  
MINIMUM 10 PEOPLE**

ZOFIA (708) 267-5603  
STELLA (708) 205-8324

5755 PENNSYLVANIA ST.  
MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410

# FAITH and POLITICS

## LA FE Y LA POLÍTICA

### SATURDAY FORMATION

Join us for an engaging discussion on the intersection of faith and politics featuring Fr. Jacob McDaniel and Fr. Roque Meraz, designed to inspire our community and deepen our understanding of these vital topics.

Acompáñenos en una charla fascinante sobre la intersección entre la fe y la política, con la participación especial del P. Jacob McDaniel y el P. Roque Meraz. Este evento ha sido diseñado para inspirar a nuestra comunidad y profundizar nuestro entendimiento sobre cómo estos dos pilares se entrelazan en nuestra vida diaria.

**MARCH 21, 2026**  
**EL 21 DE MARZO DEL 2026**

English session in Holy Angels Hall | Sesión en Español en el salón San José

**Schedule ~ Horario**  
8:30 a.m. Mass ~ Misa  
9:00 a.m. Breakfast ~ Desayuno  
9:30 a.m. Formation ~ Formación  
12:00 p.m. The End ~ El Fin

Fr. Jacob McDaniel  
Chaplain of St. Teresa of Avila Student Center, Valparaiso

Padre Roque Meraz  
Pastor Asociado de la Iglesia de San Pablo, Valparaiso

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Or visit online at ~ o visite en línea:  
<https://dioceseofgary.jotform.com/260395114101141>

**Small Groups, Big Impact:**  
Parish Renewal Through Relationships  
**April 18, 2026**  
**Grupos Pequeños, Gran Impacto:**  
Renovación parroquial a través de las relaciones

Diocese of Gary  
Pastoral Center  
9292 Broadway  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
(219) 769-9292

## EASTER BASKET COLLECTION

Join STM and Catholic Charities for the Annual Easter Basket Collection

Bring Joy to Children and Adults in Northwest Indiana

**Return Baskets March 21-22**

At Masses or to the Parish Office

**Special 2nd Collection on March 21-22 to Support the Catholic Charities Easter Food Baskets**



## 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 18/19 Class  
March 25/26 Class

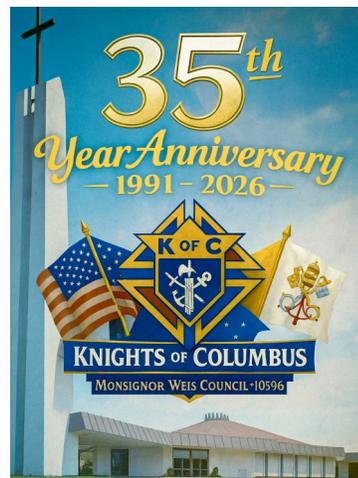
### April Schedule

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

## Knights of Columbus Monsignor Weis Council 10596

The Men of St. Thomas More are cordially invited to strengthen their faith, participate in service activities and join a distinguished Catholic fraternity. As we mark 35 years of dedicated service, we encourage your involvement in our ongoing mission.

Our guiding principles include charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. There is no minimum time requirement for participation, and membership dues are waived until 2027.



Catholic men aged 18 and above are eligible to initiate membership online at <https://www.kofc.org/join> (please indicate council #10596).

For additional information, please visit <https://kofc10596.com>,

contact Tim Jevyak or [jevyaakt@prodigy.net](mailto:jevyaakt@prodigy.net)

## GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE A



### COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday of Lent • John 9:1-41



Order your pierogis for Easter!  
Pierogi provided by Alexandra's

Cost: \$6—\$7 per dozen

**Order Online by March 25th**

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



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

# 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 Finance & Operations

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

### Dir. of Music

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

### Parish Office Receptionist

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

### Bulletin Editor

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

### Dir. of Ministries & Comm.

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

### Dir. of Religious Education

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

### Dir. of Discipleship

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

### Building Maintenance

Contact the Parish Office or  
Charles Schimpf at Ext. 2329

### 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

### Admissions

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

### Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Gonzalez  
Ext. 2200

### 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.

### Make a Payment Online:

Donate online through our parish website by using PayPal/debit/credit  
You may also scan the QR Code or Link Directly at  
[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=TQTQJV2KT2UKS](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=TQTQJV2KT2UKS)

### 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

March 1, 2026

Regular	\$21,924.00
Loose	\$1,811.00
Children	\$11.00
Automated	\$7,201.56
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,947.56</b>

*Thank You*

If you make a QCD donation from your investment account please contact Charlie Schimpf:

[cschimpf@stm-church.com](mailto:cschimpf@stm-church.com) or 219-836-8610, Ext. 2329.

He can make sure the donation is properly received, recorded and acknowledged. We do not always receive complete donor information.

*Please remember St. Thomas More in your Will and Estate Planning.  
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<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>	<p><b>catholicmatch® Indiana</b></p> <p>CatholicMatch.com/IN</p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>					
<p><b>IF YOU LIVE ALONE</b></p> <p><b>MDMedAlert!</b>™ As Low As <b>\$19<sup>95</sup></b> /mo.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ambulance/Police</li> <li>Family/Friends</li> <li>GPS &amp; Fall Alert</li> </ul> <p>CALL NOW! <b>800.808.9294</b> <a href="http://md-medalert.com">* md-medalert.com</a></p>	<p>Does your organization need a newsletter? We'll cover the printing costs!</p> <p>Learn more at <a href="http://lpicommunities.com">lpicommunities.com</a></p>	<p><b>EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT</b></p> <p><b>UNBEATABLE SERVICE &amp; PRICES</b></p> <p><b>55 YEARS</b></p> <p><i>Home Of The Webb Boys!</i></p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b> Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burglary</li> <li>Fire Safety</li> <li>Flood Detection</li> <li>Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p>833-287-3502</p>					
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