



# ST. THOMAS MORE

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

MARCH 22, 2026 • FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



**Death, to God, is so horrible  
and tragic that even He  
weeps at its reality. But He  
can save us from death.**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### 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

### MONDAY, March 23

- 6:30 am Stephen Rousseau by Wife, Susan
- 8:30 am Stephen Caco by Family

### TUESDAY, March 24

- 6:30 am Olyntho E. Ramirez (Anniv.) by Family
- 8:30 am Joseph Yadron by Family

### WEDNESDAY, March 25—Annunciation of the Lord

- 6:30 am Pamela L. Shearer by Altar & Rosary
- 8:30 am Tindara Merlo (Anniv.) by Pietro & Rosa Merlo & Family

### THURSDAY, March 26

- 6:30 am Joe Dagnillo by Daughter
- 8:30 am Stella Ilickovich (Anniv.) by Children

### FRIDAY, March 27

- 6:30 am Leokaia Jaworski by Family
- 8:30 am James Szymanski (Anniv.) by Jim & Jackie Pietraszak

### SATURDAY, March 28

- 8:30 am James Kaczka by Children
- 5:30 pm Dorothy Jurkash by Family

### SUNDAY, March 29—

#### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Nancy Kaczka by Joe & Eloise Janostak
- 10:00 am Johanna Petruch by Husband Frank & Family
- 12:00 pm Intention of Mr. & Mrs. Howard and Diane Gralewski on their 50th Wedding Anniversary by Gralewski Family

**—> 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**

## HE DOES HEAR US

“We follow One who stood and wept at the grave of Lazarus — not surely, because He was grieved that Mary and Martha wept, and sorrowed for their lack of faith (though some thus interpret) but because death, the punishment of sin, is even more horrible in his eyes than in ours.” ~ C. S. Lewis

When I was young, I used to think to myself, “If there were ever anyone that God might be afraid of, it just might be Martha!” After all, she was rather persistent, in almost a grating kind of way.

The stories of Martha that have come down to us both involve her ripping into Jesus. In one of the Gospels, we hear about her being angry because her sister was not helping her with the hospitality arrangements when Jesus visited their home.

She went straight to Jesus, practically demanding that He do something about it. His response was that Mary had chosen the better half and would not be deprived because of it.

In the today's Gospel according to John, Martha confronted Jesus when He arrived because of the death of Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary. Mary was at home grieving; but, Martha was a woman on a mission and got up in the Lord's face.

Jesus assured Martha that her brother would rise. She acknowledged that. She knew that her brother, Lazarus, would participate in the resurrection of the just.

That just was not enough for Martha, however. Her grief was palpable. She didn't want to think about the resurrection of the just. She wanted her brother, Lazarus, back now.

Jesus, for His part, would give her what she wanted. He would go to the tomb and bring Lazarus back to life.

Lewis reminds us that death, to God, is so horrible and tragic that even He weeps at its reality. But He can save us from death. We are all going to participate in the resurrection of the just if we do all that we can to follow the Lord and avoid distancing ourselves from Him.

That is for the future, however. In the present, we want and need to be comforted in the here and now as well. We long for that comfort and plead for that comfort with the same kind of insistence and trust that Martha exuded.

The lesson in the Gospel is that God does hear us and that He does respond to our needs. We, like Martha, have to have the confidence to approach him.

**FAITH ACTION:** Be confident when you go to the Lord in prayer this day. He does hear us!

*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 22: Rev. George C. Muresan (1996)
- March 24: Rev. Peter A. Biegel (1960)
- March 28: Rev. Joseph D. Sipos (1983)



## HOLY THURSDAY WITH BISHOP MCCLORY

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.

## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

### Tuesday, March 24

Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.

### COMING SOON

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

### Wednesday, April 1

6:00 p.m. until finished - "Last minute confessions"  
7:00 p.m. - Taize 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 priest was preparing a man for his long journey to death. Whispering firmly, the priest said, "Denounce the devil! Let him know how little you think of him!"

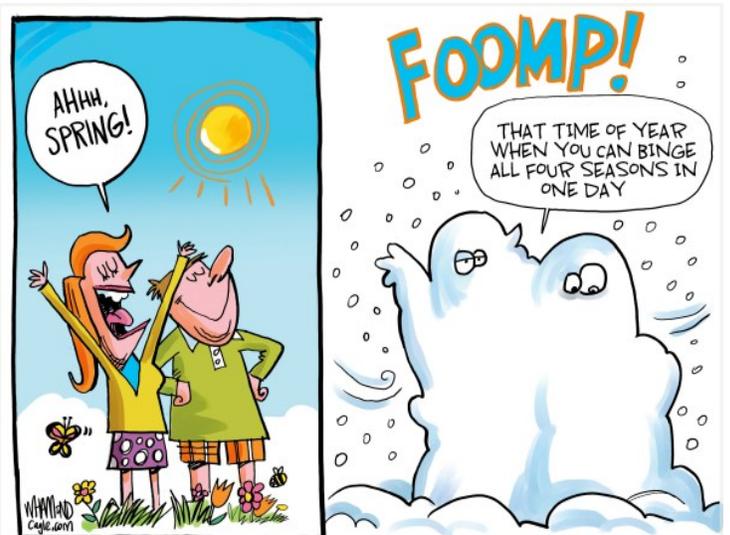
The dying man said nothing.

The priest repeated his instruction.

Still the man said nothing.

The priest was getting quite passionate in getting the man to do as he had instructed and he asked the dying man, "Why do you refuse to denounce the devil and his evil?"

The dying man said, "You don't understand, Father. Until I know for sure where I'm heading, I don't think I ought to aggravate anybody."



## 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/42tadty>, 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  
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 11:1-45



A friend of mine wrote an imaginative reflection on the raising of Lazarus that caught me off guard. She proposed that when Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb, the man was not joyful but angry and annoyed. After so much suffering, maybe death felt like a release. He had finally escaped the pain. And then, suddenly, Jesus' voice cuts through the silence: **"Lazarus, come out!" (John 11:43)** The light stings his eyes. The pain returns. And now he is dragged back into a world that had broken him.

It startled me at first, but the more I sat with it, the more it made sense. Sometimes, people do not want to be raised. Not at first. Think of those in the grip of addiction, despair, or numbness. The tomb can feel safer than the risk of living again. Yet Jesus, moved by the grief and faith of others (Martha, Mary, the community) calls the dead man out. Lazarus obeys. But he is still bound, head to foot. Jesus says to the bystanders, **"Untie him and let him go" (John 11:44).**

That is often how healing happens: slowly, reluctantly. Not just by a personal decision, but through the love and persistence of others. Resurrection is not always euphoric. It may begin in protest and confusion and only later turn to gratitude and freedom. But Christ's voice breaks through, anyway.

**Lenten challenge:** Who in your life needs to be called back to life? Pray for them. If that person is you, listen for the voice. It is calling even now.

Father John Muir  
©LPi

## Rest In Peace

Mary Meyers

Richard Julian Furman

William Patrick Downes, IV

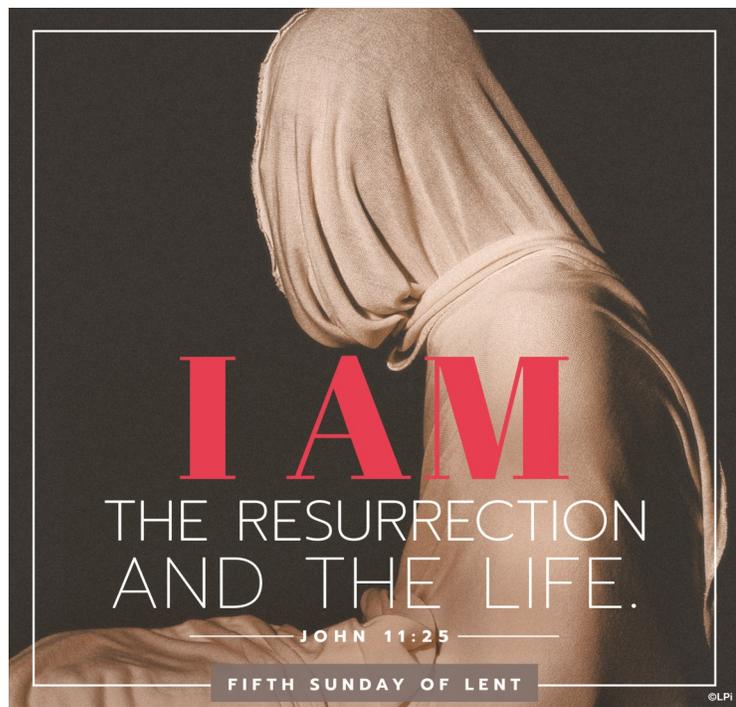
## Readings Week of March 22

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/  
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45  
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11  
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30  
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/  
Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38  
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59  
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42  
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56  
Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4  
Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

## Prayer of the Faithful

*We Pray...*

*That we open our hearts to God's active presence in our daily lives and become "partakers of the divine nature."*



## Weis Center • Parish Ministry Center

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

### Ministry Schedule

#### Monday, March 23

5:30 pm Parents Bible Study—Weis Center Room 101  
7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous—Weis Center Room 101  
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus—Weis Center Room 102

#### Tuesday, March 24

5:00 pm Parish Life—Weis Center Room 107  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 542—Weis Center Main Hall  
7:00 pm Mental Health Ministry—Weis Center Room 101

#### Wednesday, March 25

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study—Weis Center Rm 101  
1:00 pm Seniors Board Meeting—Weis Center Room 107  
4:30 pm Lion's Den Meeting—Weis Center Main Hall  
6:30 pm Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107

#### Thursday, March 26

9:15 am Lenten Study & Share—Weis Center Main Hall, 101, 107  
5:00 pm Girl Scouts Troop 15650—Weis Center Main Hall  
6:30 pm Evening Scripture Study—Weis Center Rooms 101 & 107

#### Friday, March 27

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

#### Saturday, March 28

9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes Secular Franciscans  
—Weis Center Room 101



### Celebrants

#### Saturday, March 28

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

#### Sunday, March 29

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

### Altar Servers

#### Saturday, March 28

5:30 p.m. MC—Alex, AS—X. Mendoza and G. Knight

#### Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. MC—Abi, AS—A. & I. Tolnai and E. Smola  
10:00 a.m. MC—Gabi, AS—B. & T. Ogunyoye and E. Valentino  
12:00 p.m. MC—Nina, AS—J. Dye

### Greeters Schedule for the Week

#### Saturday, March 28

5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Bill & Chris Retseck  
Chapel: Lisa Mendoza  
Choir: —

#### Sunday, March 29

6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: Krystal Quagliara

8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Jan & Paul Liszewski  
Chapel: Toni & Zig Jedrzejczak  
Choir: Terry Laciak

10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Kate Dagholor  
Chapel: Magdalena Arteaga  
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:

#### Tuesday 3/24/2026

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

#### Fridays 3/27/2026

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

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

“Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’” JOHN 11:40

Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really do see that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous life allows us to see God's active presence in our daily lives and we become “partakers of the divine nature.”

## Insights from the Lenten Study and Share Series

Daniel Maul, Director of Discipleship

Be careful what you ask for – especially from the Lord. Once, I realized that I'd begin my days without praying. I sincerely wanted to end this bad habit, somehow. At that time, on at least five days a week, I drove thirty-three miles alone to work and listened to music almost the entire way. Therefore, in order to ensure that I'd have a morning prayer, I asked the Lord to remind me to pray, when going to turn on the radio. Jump to today, about fifteen years later, and I never can turn on the radio, in the car, without feeling called to pray. My children think I should never have asked God for that help. I disagree. Apparently, this practice (linking prayer with another habit), according to one participant, is similar to a habit taught in the book, *Atomic Habits*, by James Clear.



One group said that they are just now realizing the vital importance of *silence* for prayer. We need silence not only in *order* to pray, but we need silence, also, as a *form of prayer*, itself. Just open yourself to God – in the Person of the Holy Spirit, within you – and receive God's grace and blessing. That, too, is prayer.

We heard about another confession that took place for the first time in decades. I've been told, by a participant very moved by this fact, that if this series accomplished nothing else, getting two people to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation, for the first time in a long time, is success enough to justify having done it.

I heard two individuals – one at each of the gatherings – say the same, exact thing: "What are we going to do after this is *over*?" My response to both individuals was the same: "Have *more* gatherings like this!" It's kind of my job to provide this kind of ministry and relational encounters with Christ and one another. Please put me to work! We'd like to get as many parishioners as possible into small-groups, which are really faith-sharing groups that would meet regularly, either in a home or at the parish.

One participant shared that she never really connected with or valued the Rosary before. She had the wrong view of the Rosary, and saw it as a bunch of long-winded, mumbled words, similar to the types of praying against which Jesus Christ warned us (Matthew 6:7). Now, she sees that the Rosary is really a kind of Catholic *manta*, during which we essentially just sit with God and meditate on the lives of Jesus and Mary. God wants to help us and heal us, in this life, but we have to *allow* him to do so. The Sacraments and the Sabbath are for us; we're not created to slavishly serve the Sacraments (Mark 2:27). Come back to all of them – including Confession – and let the Lord wash you clean, for He must, in order for us to be saved (John 13:8).



### 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	Shampoo
(Chicken, Beef Stew, Spam & Tuna)	Toothpaste
Canned Fruit	Dish Soap
Instant Mashed Potatoes	

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**

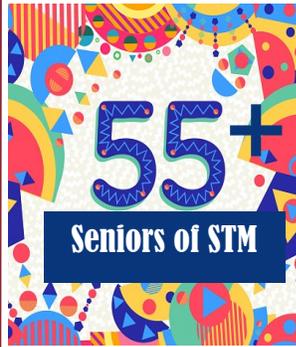
*Let's surpass our goal!*

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 3/27 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 brought a dish and enjoyed our potluck luncheon in March. Let's look ahead to April and usher in the Spring together!*

**Wednesday, April 1st**  
**1:00 p.m.—Weis Center**

Speaker: Julius Ballanco  
St. Thomas More's Mental Health Ministry

Come and learn about this parish ministry and valuable information for everyone's wellness. They have been working hard at their meetings to keep informed and knowledgeable about many issues facing our parish community. Join us for this timely meeting.

**Wednesday, April 15th**  
**1:00 p.m.—Weis Center**

Mark your calendars for our Social Meeting



### Gabriel Project

Please join us for our next meeting,

**Wednesday, March 25th**  
**7:00 p.m.—Weis Center**

Our ministry walks with mothers-to-be and new mothers who are facing many challenges. Help us minister to these mothers for the material and spiritual needs.



March 22, 2026

# St. Thomas More School



## CASH RAFFLE

### Thank You!

Our deepest thanks to all who participated in our STMS 2026 Cash Raffle to make it another success for our school.

### Congratulations Winners!

**Grand Prize of \$5,000:**  
Valerie Magana

**2nd Prize of \$3,000:** Dan Hoffman

**3rd Prize of \$1,000:** Jeff Grisham

**10 — \$100 Winners:**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Walker  
Sarah Santellano  
Brad Ericks  
Gary Laster  
Margarita Avila  
Nicole Hluska  
Dave Tucker  
Kristina Morando  
Lisette Pabey  
Red Sellers

## 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.

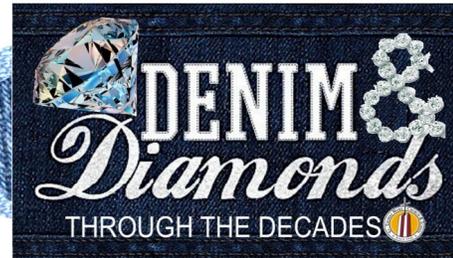
Perfect for the person who needs their days free. Learn more by contacting Kim Smith:  
[ksmith@stm-school.com](mailto:ksmith@stm-school.com).

## Submit by March 31!

STMS is accepting Strack & VanTil grocery receipts until the end of March (March 31).

Drop off at the Parish Office or place in the Offer-tory in a clearly marked envelope.

Every receipt helps STMS earn great educational items & gym equipment



*Join Us for an Evening*

TO SUPPORT ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL  
AT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

## Denim & Diamonds

Friday, April 10, 2026

6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

*All are Invited!*

YOUR \$75 TICKET INCLUDES:  
HEAVY APPETIZERS • BEER/WINE TICKET • DANCING  
FUN ACTIVITIES • ONLINE AUCTION

Use the QR to purchase tickets (or sponsor).  
Attire: Wear denim &/or diamonds or an outfit from your favorite decade!  
Questions? Andrea Leahy at (574)339-0020  
[aleahy1518@gmail.com](mailto:aleahy1518@gmail.com)  
or Pam Pasyk at [ppasyk@stm-school.com](mailto:ppasyk@stm-school.com)



Purchase Tickets Here

## Be an Event 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.

## Donate!

We are extremely grateful to anyone who can donate gift certificates for restaurants, retail stores, theaters, sporting goods or events, etc., items or services for our popular Denim & Diamond Online Auction.

Donations can be dropped off 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 or to arrange pick-up.



## To Sponsor or Purchase Tickets

Use QR or Link:

<https://e.givesmart.com/events/NC5/>



Please Join Us for This School & Parish Event!

## Bringing families together through time-honored traditions

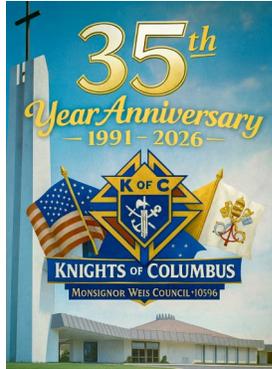


Knights of Columbus & Holy Name Fish Fries



## Knights of Columbus Monsignor Weis Council 10596

Stop by the Narthex (main entrance of the church) after all Masses this weekend to meet the Knights and inquire about membership!



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 <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)

or attend our next social gatherings held on the Mondays March 23rd at 7:30 p.m. in the Weis Ministry Center.

## LAST CALL FOR PIEROGIES



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)

## 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 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

### May Schedule

**May 2** Sunday—10 a.m. First Communion  
STM School and Religious Education

**GROWING** WITH THE **Gospel**  
CYCLE A



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Annunciation of the Lord • Luke 1:26-38



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

## “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

## 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.

# 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.

### 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 8, 2026

Regular	\$22,606.00
Loose	\$1,704.00
Children	\$7.00
Automated	\$7,814.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,981.71</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.  
Thank you for your generosity.*



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