



# ST. THOMAS MORE

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

DECEMBER 28, 2025 • THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH



Being a family is not always easy.  
Being a family can be very messy.  
But being a family can bring  
great joy and comfort to all involved.

## MASS INTENTIONS



### SUNDAY, December 28—

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 6:30 am Mariane Magro by Elaine Fechalos
- 8:00 am Virgil P. Slivka & Susan Burke by Family
- 10:00 am Donald Bryant by Wife & Son
- 12:00 pm For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased

### MONDAY, December 29

- 6:30 am Appreciation of the Carmelite Fathers  
by St. Thomas More Family
- 8:30 am Joseph Yadron by Family

### TUESDAY, December 30

- 6:30 am Michael L. Cenko by Wife Carolyn & Children
- 8:30 am Rose Banach by Joan, Tim & Jacalyn Plonsey

### WEDNESDAY, December 31

- 6:30 am Katica Kirincic by Altar & Rosary
- 8:30 am Bernice Christiana (Anniv.) by Christiana Family
- 5:30 pm Lois Strain by Susan Strain & Family

### THURSDAY, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am Fortunata Bonini by Tom & Elizabeth Grosser
- 10:00 am Richard Saunders by Family
- 12:00 pm James & Nancy Kaczka by Children

### FRIDAY, January 2—Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

- 6:30 am Stella Ilickovich by Children
- 8:30 am Regina Boland by Brian & Lisa Dunne

### SATURDAY, January 3

- 8:30 am Lorraine Rescan by Kathy Piekut
- 5:30 pm Merced Aquino by Family

### SUNDAY, January 4—The Epiphany of the Lord

- 6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
- 8:00 am George Danculovich by Leslie
- 10:00 am Eugene Florek (Anniv.) by Kathy & Greg Boyan
- 12:00 pm Richard S. Smith by Eileen Smith & Family

## Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

### Mission Statement:

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

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

**St. Thomas More Church • 8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321 • (219) 836-8610 • [www.stm-church.com](http://www.stm-church.com)**



## GOD BLESS OUR FAMILIES

**“Our most basic instinct is not for survival but for family. Most of us would give our own life for the survival of a family member, yet we lead our daily life too often as if we take our family for granted.” ~ Paul Pearshall**

Today, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It is a very important feast since it is rooted in the unconditional love of God itself. God loves us completely, entirely, and with all His being. He does not withhold His love for any reason whatsoever. That is a great comfort for us and is a great inspiration. Thank God for that because we need all the inspiration that we can get if we are to live as the Holy Family as well.

So often, people think that living as the Holy Family means living free from conflict or strife. That is not so. Living as the Holy Family means loving each other unconditionally and being there for one another no matter what.

Joseph loved Mary so much that he was willing to take her as his wife even when he found out that she was pregnant. He thought about divorcing her quietly; but took Mary as his wife at the encouragement of an angel.

Joseph and Mary loved their child so much that they were willing to uproot their lives and flee to Egypt because they had heard that the king wanted Jesus dead. Imagine the strife of knowing that someone wanted to kill your child.

Joseph and Mary loved Jesus and panicked when he turned up missing as they traveled back to their home from Jerusalem. They found Him in the temple teaching the elders. While they were afraid, they realized that the days were nearing when they would have to let their Son go and give Him the space that He needed.

Mary's unconditional love and support for Jesus was quite evident when she walked with Him on the road to Calvary and stood at the foot of His cross as He died. I cannot help but think that her love for Him gave Jesus strength to do the will of His Father.

These are just a few things that the Holy Family went through. Being a family is not always easy. Being a family can be very messy. But being a family can bring great joy and comfort to all involved.

May the Holy Family bless your family this day with love and joy. Do not be afraid to love one another unconditionally.

**FAITH ACTION:** Pray for families, that they have the grace that they need to nurture, cherish, support, and respect one another in all circumstances.

*In. 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:

December 28: Rev. Patrick J. Connolly (2002)  
January 1: Deacon George Modrak (2007)  
January 3: Msgr. John A. Sullivan (1972)

## HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

New Year's Day is a Holy Day of Obligation as it is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God are as follows:

**Wednesday, December 31**

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

**Thursday, January 1**

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



**“The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective.” ~ G.K. Chesterton**

A New Year dawns and, with it, new promise and new hope. Throw away the cares and concerns of the past year. Dismiss the mistakes that you may have made. Do not tie yourself to the past; but, use the past to help yourself grow into the future. My prayer for you is that you have a blessed year, filled with rich graces from our loving God.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE *Ring in the New Year*

- Q. What is a New Year's resolution?  
A. Something that goes in one year and out the other.
- Q. What's a cow's favorite holiday?  
A. Moo Year's Eve.
- Q. What do you call someone who says they know all the words to "Auld Lang Syne"?  
A. A liar.
- Q. What was Dr. Frankenstein's New Year's resolution?  
A. To make new friends.
- Q. What did the ghost say on Jan. 1?  
A. Happy Boo Year!



## 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/42tadtyr>, use the QR code or call the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610.



Antonio Belmonte  
Diane Bochnowski  
Linda Braun  
Jack Brunetti  
Diane Butler  
Ursula Cichy  
Kevin Clark  
Loretta Clott  
Charlotte Conn  
Valerie Czapkiewicz  
Janice Devries  
David Dull  
Antonia Espitia  
Gabriela Gallegos  
Gary Gardner  
Joan Glinski  
Howard Gralewski  
Margaret Gray  
Christine Greenberg  
Mary Ellen Gullicks  
Jeffrey Gunning  
Katie Kardes Hargett

Dick Hemingway  
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  
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

## Gospel Reflection Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.



But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: **"Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20).** First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence.

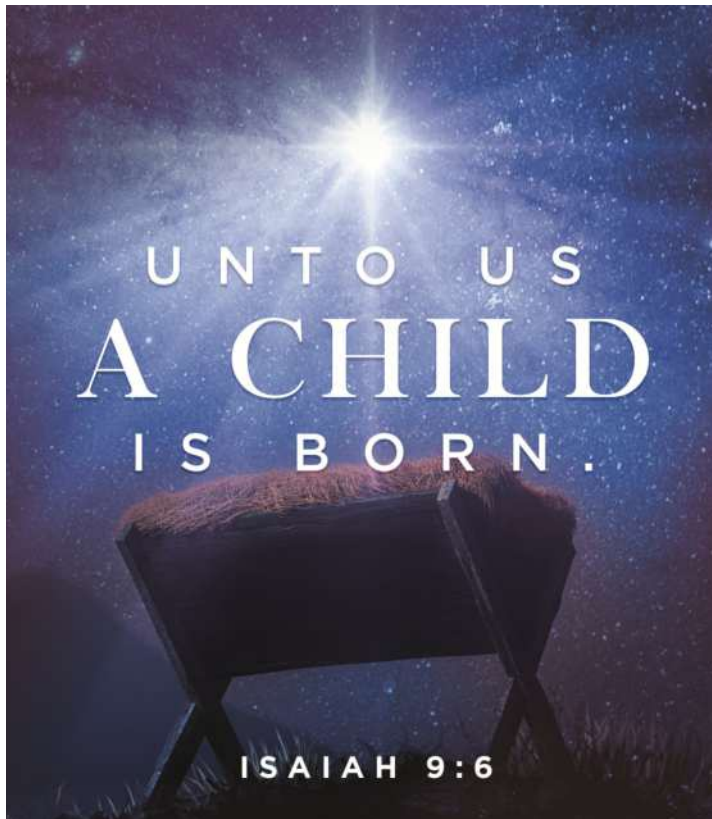
- Father John Muir  
©LPi



## Rest In Peace



*Pamela L. Shearer*



## Readings Week of December 28

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23  
Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18  
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28  
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34  
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a,

## Prayer of the Faithful

*We Pray...*

*That we use our words and our actions for the glory  
of God, Our Heavenly Father!*



## Weis Center • Parish Ministry Center

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

### Ministry Schedule

#### Monday, December 29

7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous—Weis Center Room 101

#### Tuesday, December 30

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

#### Wednesday, December 31

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study—Weis Center Rm 101

*Blessed and Happy New Year!*

The Parish Office will be closed Dec. 24-25 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1

### Add these dates to your calendar:

#### Wednesday 12/31

5:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Vigil Mass—STM Church

#### Thursday 1/1/2026

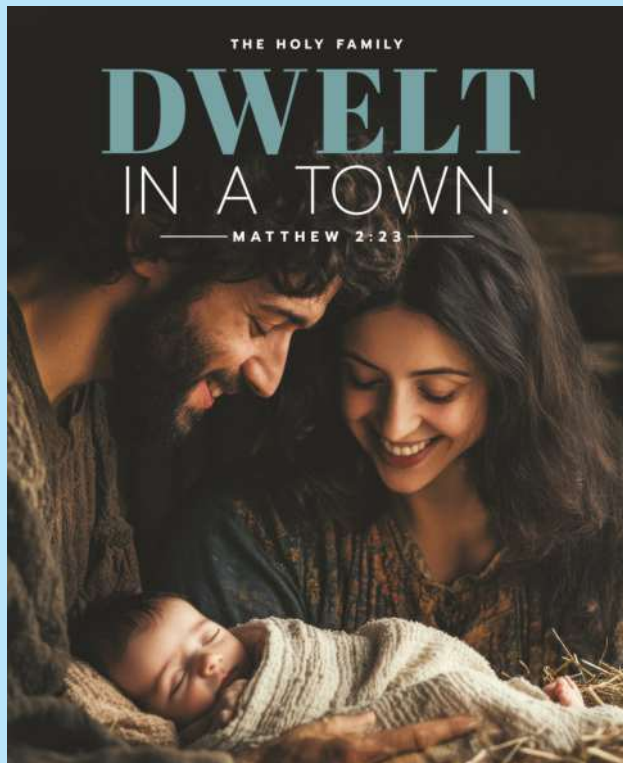
6:30 a.m. Mass—STM Church  
8:00 a.m. Mass—STM Church  
10:00 a.m. Mass—STM Church  
12 Noon Mass—STM Church

#### Sunday 1/4/2026

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

#### Thursday 1/8/2026

9:00 a.m. Millions of Monicas—STM Chapel



### Celebrants

#### Saturday, January 3

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

#### Sunday, January 4

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



#### Wednesday, December 31

5:30 p.m. MC—Hunter, AS—M. Moya & P. Werner

#### Thursday, January 1

8:00 a.m. MC—Derek, AS—A. & L. Jara and E. Reyna  
10:00 a.m. MC—Gabi, AS—A. Monroy, K. Orozco & S. Santellano  
12:00 p.m. MC—Lukas, AS—O. Mack

#### Saturday, January 3

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

#### Sunday, January 4

8:00 a.m. MC—Abi, AS—A. & I. Tolnai and H. Jorsch  
10:00 a.m. MC—Reyna, AS—A. Sudac, E. Valentino and J. Adebite  
12:00 Noon MC—Nina, AS—J. Dye

### Greeters Schedule for the Week

#### Saturday, January 3

##### 5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Knight Family  
Chapel: Sergio & Lisa Mendoza  
Choir: Victor & Wendy Villarreal

If you would like to be a Greeter, please contact  
**Lisa Mendoza**

718mendoza@gmail.com

#### Sunday, January 4

##### 6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: Tanya Vasquez

##### 8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Terry Laciak  
Chapel: Maria Rodriguez  
Choir: Christi & Katie Kordeck

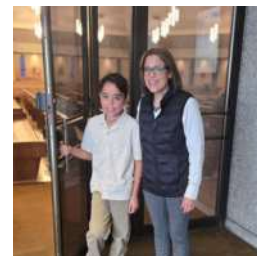
##### 10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Juliet Ogunyoye  
Chapel: Diann Adley  
Choir: Michelle Walker

##### 12:00 Noon Mass

Main: Trinidad & Gladys Escobedo

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



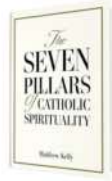
*Merry Christmas*  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## Lenten Study and Share Small Group Sessions

Accompanying the Reading of:

*"The Seven Pillars of  
Catholic Spirituality"*

by Matthew Kelly



**Wednesday Evening Sessions 6:30-8:00 p.m.**  
Feb. 25, March 4, March 11, March 18 and March 25

**Thursday Morning Sessions 9:15-10:45 a.m.**  
Feb. 26, March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26

Lent is a wonderful time during which to draw closer to the Lord. Let's try to grow our faith, and open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, by reading, reflecting upon, and discussing this book, together, as a faith community.

**Register Here** —>

Or go to:

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



Please call Daniel Maul with questions at 219-836-8610, Ext. 2415 or email [dmaul@stm-church.com](mailto:dmaul@stm-church.com)



### *St. Vincent DePaul Pantry Needs:*

|                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 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!

## Let's Stop Acting Like We Know

Daniel Maul, Director of Discipleship



Is the end of the world coming? Are we in the "End Times"? Is Armageddon on the horizon? Who knows!?!? But, I do know *one* thing for certain: we're not supposed to *act* like we know.

What would the world look like, if we behaved as though the end of it were imminent? Well, I think we would probably stop caring about everything. Why care about the environment, if the end of the world is coming? Why care about our economy, if the end of the world is coming? Why care about other people and their needs, if the end of the world is coming? Why care, period?!?! Well, as Christians, we're *supposed* to care. Always. We can never *stop* caring, not about the world, not about our community, and certainly not about doing the will of God. The Christian is called to try always to bring about healing, reconciliation, and new life. If we decide that nothing really matters, because everything is about to come to an end anyway, we won't keep working on building the Reign of God and the Peaceable Kingdom, here, on Earth. We'll just, sort of, "mail it in."

We simply do not know when the end of the world will take place, though we have to be always ready. Jesus Christ tells us, "But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come" (Mark 13:32-33). Elsewhere, Scripture tells us, "So too, you also must be prepared, for **at an hour you do not expect**, the Son of Man will come" (Matthew 24:44). If we have decided that the end of the world is coming, we are, in fact, *expecting* it, which we are told is exactly *NOT* when it's going to happen. Listen to Christ, and trust Him. Do not trust yourselves and human thinking, alone.

We cannot just give up on everything and not care, because we believe in and await the Second Coming. We have to be reminded to be "watchful," "alert," and "prepared," exactly because we have to carry on living just as before, as though the end of the world is NOT about to happen. If we could stop caring and give up on everything and just wait for it all to end, we wouldn't have to make sure that we were being "watchful" and "alert." All of our focus would already be on the coming of the Lord. Christians deeply care about life, history and material existence, in addition to waiting for the Lord. So, carry on, and care.





# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOVE WITH FLOWER MEMORIALS THIS CHRISTMAS

Abelseth Family  
Dimitre Adich  
Elvira Aguilera  
John & Ceil Albizati  
Allen & Rita Alexander  
Richard Altgilbers  
Avgornos Family  
Annette Ayers  
Balon Family  
John Baran  
Susie Baran  
Anne Baranowski  
William & Celia Bender  
Michael & Amelia Benko  
Elaine Benson  
John Benson  
Michael Benson  
Sandra Benson  
Eduardo Bermoy  
Trinidad & Benigno Bermoy  
Raul Beticur  
Donald & Clare Blastick  
Leonard Boese  
Mrs. Marie Borowiec  
Mr. & Mrs. Boutin  
Sheila Bouton  
Ray, Bernice & David Brandner  
LuAnn Burns  
Lousie Cafasso  
Pauline Canham  
JC Carabine  
Jose A. Cariderd Raras  
Michael Cenko  
Members of the Chmara Family  
Jean Christy  
Stephen Cichy  
Bob Cirrincione  
Adriana Coluna  
Constantino Family  
Maxine Conway  
Augustina Cortiletti  
Culver Family  
Mary & Albert Czajka  
Edward Czapkowicz  
Dagnillo Families  
Mike Dankovis  
Luis de Asis  
Maria de Jesus  
Catalina del Real  
E. del Real  
Eleuterio del Real  
Diederich Family  
Louise Doffin  
Doktyz Family  
Fr. Stanley Dominik  
Adeline Dudek  
Frances Dudek  
Peter Dumaresq  
Remedios Dy  
Samuel Dy  
Elva Elsas  
Wendell Elsas  
Anthony Falaschetti

Margaret Falaschetti  
Wilfred & Florence Felgen-  
hauer  
Christine Ferrini  
Fitzpatrick Family  
Ford Families  
Thomas B. Foreman, Jr.  
C. & Irene Franciski  
Timothy Franciski  
Diane Frederick  
Barbara Frigo  
Erminia Frigo  
Rudolph Frigo  
Marion Fulte  
Carrie Fulte Meyer  
Paul G.  
Leonard & Irene  
Galkowski  
Josefa Garcia  
Socorro Garcia  
Don Genovese Family  
Gust & Kathy Georgelas  
Gerlach Family  
William Gerlach  
Walter & Harriet Giba  
Chuck Glatzak  
Gralewski Family  
Timothy P. Granger  
Lawrence Duane Gregory  
Greichunos Family  
Joseph & Jayne  
Greichunos  
Frank Gresser  
Marie Gresser  
Ray A. Halas  
J.R. Hanson  
Joalle Hanson  
Andrew Hanusin  
Mary Hanusin  
Miguel Haro, Sr.  
Anabelle Hauter  
Kelsey Heilman  
Chris Holcomb  
Julia Holka  
Jack Holmes  
Vera Holmes  
Delia Huard  
Walter Huard  
Catherine Huber  
Paul Huber  
Alvina Huttie  
Edward Huttie  
Pervis Ingram  
John Jacobs  
Barbara Jarvis  
Martin & Elizabeth Jarvis  
Lillian Jaworski  
Thaddeus Jaworski  
Betty M. Jampa  
Peter & Violet Jurich  
Doreen Jurkash  
Dorothy & John Jurkash  
Sharon & Amanda Jurkash

Joseph Justynski  
Stella & Jan Justynski  
Harry & Margaret Kender  
Buck Kinser  
Joan Klein  
Frank & Alma Klingelschmitt  
Esther Klobuchar  
Peter Klobuchar  
Dolores Koch  
William Koch  
Lucille Kolodziej  
Catherine Kopczynski  
Thaddeus Kopczynski  
Edna & Edwin Kozlowski  
Edward Kozy  
Miller Krizmanic  
Rose Krizmanic  
John & Julia Kruk  
Thomas & Bernice Kubic  
Kukta Family & Friends  
Frank Kveton  
Helen & John Kwasny  
Linda La Papa  
Jean LaPeer  
Suzan LaPeer  
Julie Laschober  
Beverly Lasky  
Richard Lasky  
Edie LaVeris  
Susan Levy  
Beverly Linke  
Connie Lipay  
Genevieve Liszewski  
Walter Liszewski  
Daniel Lowry  
Joseph & Kate Lowry  
Colleen Lusk  
Ben & Margie Mach  
Daniel W. Mach  
Shelia MacKeigan  
Jean Maloney  
Lawrence Maloney  
Steven & Katherine  
Mardjetko,  
Robert & Lucy Martinez  
Martinez/Varell Family  
Elizabeth Mashura  
Louis Mashura Sr.  
Jack Mateja  
Linda Matson  
Chuck Mayernik  
Steve Mayernik  
Evelyn S. McDunn  
Timothy M. McDunn  
William Dorcey McDunn  
McIntosh Family & Friends  
Dick E. McLaughlin  
William & Gertrude  
McLaughlin  
Margaret & Robert McMenamin  
Everett Meier  
Mr. & Mrs. Meirwa  
Manuela Meler

Renato Melero  
Valentin Melero,  
Melero/Medina Family  
Mercier Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mierwa  
Gerry Mikolajczak  
Chester Milen  
Margaret Miller  
Ralph Miller  
Jim & Ann Miskovich  
Salvador Mogat  
Paul Monastyrski  
Edward Monteleone  
Nicola Monteleone  
Rose Monteleone  
Floro Montenegro, Sr.  
Cyril Moran  
Jean Mordaunt  
Thomas Mordaunt  
Anthony Mrvan  
Patricia Mrvan  
George Mueller  
Margarit Mueller  
Werner Mueller  
Theresa Mullaney  
Vincent Mullaney  
Therese Mulvihill  
Donald J. Mulvihill, Sr.  
Donald J. Mulvihill, Jr.  
Denise Murray  
Mr. & Mrs. Musca  
Edwin Nadratowski  
The Family of Martin Nemeth  
Vera & Thomas Newman  
Delores J. Nilles  
Robert J. Nilles  
Steve E. Nilles  
John F. Nilles, Jr.  
Robert Noe  
Chet Nordyke  
Ann & Michael Novosel  
Andrew & Alma Novotny  
Arnold Novotny  
Mrs. Elizabeth Noworyta  
Manuel Nunez  
Alberto Ochoa  
Carlos Ochoa  
Luz M. Ochoa  
Oscar Odegaard  
Mark O'Dowd  
Joseph & Frances O'Drobinak  
Andrew & Helen Onda  
Joan O'Neill  
Joseph O'Neill  
Stanislaw Opach  
Nettie Pacanowski  
Sylvester Pacanowski  
Pannitto Family  
Josephine & Stephen Pasztor  
Joseph Pawlak  
John Pawlowicz  
Al Peerbolte  
Ida Peerbolte

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

## REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOVE WITH FLOWER MEMORIALS THIS CHRISTMAS

Andy & Mae Pellar  
 Joe & Elaine Pellar  
 John & Claudia Pellar  
 Pena Family  
 Chip Petersen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Petersen  
 Peterson Families  
 Frank & Antoinette Picicco  
 Don & Gene Pinarski  
 Alejandra & Quirico Pojas  
 Poor Souls in Purgatory  
 Claude Posilovich  
 Dorothy Posilovich  
 Steve Posilovich  
 Mona Powers  
 Albert & Mary Puplava  
 Quarcini Families  
 Queroz Family Members  
 Curt Rak  
 Frank Rapin, Jr.  
 Bob & Maryann Reed  
 Charles & Agnes Reed  
 Reid Family  
 Hilda Rena  
 Adelle Retseck  
 Louis Retseck  
 Francis M. Rich  
 Mildred Rich  
 Guadalupe Rizo  
 Javier Rodriguez  
 Ofelia Rodriguez  
 Chester & Elizabeth Ross  
 Thomas Francis Ross  
 Stephen Rousseau  
 David & Lou Rozmanich  
 Corene Rucoba  
 Lucille & Harold Rueth  
 Joe & Stephanie Rybicki  
 John Rybicki  
 Michael & Helen Safko  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sajdyk  
 Robert & Esther Salinas  
 Richard Saunders  
 Rita Saunders  
 Maggie Serrano  
 Florence Shaver  
 William Shaver, Sr.  
 Tom Sherman  
 Stephen & Melvin Shondel  
 Friar Roger A. Shondel, O.P.  
 Alfredo Sierra, Jr.  
 Caroline Simants  
 David Simants  
 Frances Simants  
 William Simants  
 Tony Simchak  
 Frank Simko  
 Hester & Joseph Sindall, Sr.  
 Edward Skibinski  
 Esther Skibinski  
 James Edward Skibinski  
 Linda Mary Skibinski

Stanley & Harriet Sliwa  
 Carolyn & Ed Smiley  
 Maggie Smith  
 Richard Smith  
 Edward Smosna  
 Helen & Stanley Smosna  
 Jean Sokolowski  
 Solivais Family  
 Rich Sopko  
 Souls in Purgatory  
 Spence Family  
 Mina Spila  
 Harriet Spisak  
 Helen & Mark Spudic  
 John & Lottie Spudic  
 Anabelle Stambuli  
 Leo & Dorothy Starzak  
 John Steinhauer  
 John A. Stock  
 Pat A. Stock  
 Ethel Stofko  
 Joseph Storino  
 Lois Strain  
 James Strain, Sr.  
 Arnold Stretch  
 Marilyn Stretch  
 Marilyn Strong  
 Mark Sudicky  
 Christina R. Surano  
 Arnold Susoreny  
 Mary T. Sweeney  
 Sherryl Tabulog  
 Neal & Jo Tolley  
 Donald L. Trgovich  
 Phyllis Tumpcich  
 John Tumpcich, Sr.  
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 George Wendlinger  
 Mark Wendlinger  
 Annette Wisniewski  
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 Marilyn Wisniewski  
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 Richard & Rita Wojcinski  
 Tillie Wojdula

Martha Wolak  
 Mr. Wolak  
 Ray A. Wolak  
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 Felisa Yu  
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 Mario Benjamin Yu  
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 Elizabeth Avila  
 Henry & Rose Banach  
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 Deceased Members of the  
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 Mary & Peg Barron  
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 Rose & Ed Capranica  
 Marian Carney  
 George Danculovich  
 Ed Dernulc  
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 Joseph & Dorothy Dubeck  
 Alison English  
 Diana Farley  
 Eugene Florek  
 Rita Florek  
 Jim Folta  
 Pauline & Bruno Folta  
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 Jane & Joseph Greichunos  
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 Joan Kaim  
 Walter & Veronica Kardas  
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Lesniewicz Family  
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 Simplicia Ngo  
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 Do Ling Yee

### GIVEN IN THANKSGIVING FOR

Mike & Ida Gelbolingo & Children

## 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

### December Schedule

Dec. 31/Jan. 1     **No Class—Happy New Year!**

### January Schedule

January 7/8     Class

January 14/15   Class

**January 16th— CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

January 21/22   Class

January 28/29   Class



## 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.**

## *Happy and Blessed New Year!*

### Save These Dates:

**Wednesday, January 21st  
1:00 p.m.—Weis Center Main Hall**

**February 4th—Pizza Party!  
12:00 p.m. —Weis Center Main Hall**  
Advance reservations required by 1/21/26



**COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Mary Mother of God • Luke 2:16-21



## *Before the Bell*

**Join Us the First Sunday of  
Every Month at 9:15 am**

**In the Chapel**

(Before 10:00 am Mass, We End at  
9:45 am, Before the Bell)

Lively Discussion with Your Fellow Parishioners  
Monthly Topic for Friendly Conversation

**Join us on Sunday, January 4th  
at 9:15 am in the Chapel**

*Oops!*

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**jpeg or png format**

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# St. Thomas More School

## Christmas CHEER

### Sharing Faith Traditions

If you see shoes lined up in the hallway at STMS, then it is surely the Feast St. Nicholas Day, where "St. Nick" visits classrooms, speaking about



his generous deeds, helping the poor and his life on earth. He always leaves a special treat in the waiting shoes for the children.

Likewise, "St. Lucy" traverses the school telling her story of bringing light to the darkness, her strong faith and charity to the poor.



### Sharing with Other Children

On a special December morning each year, you can find the altar steps filled with gifts for children and know that it is the annual Mass of the Toys.

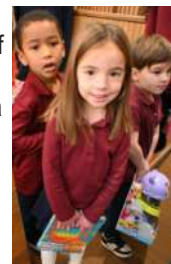
This impressive day of generosity finds each of our 550 STMS students at our All School



Mass, carrying a toy, book or game intended for another child in our community

so that they, too, can have a happy Christmas.

This year, over 600 toys were collected, bagged by our



Student Council and sent to our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution to families in need.

We are thankful for the kindness of our school family and proud

### Sharing the Gift of Music with Our Community

December has been filled with a flurry of Christmas activities for our St. Thomas More School students. A mid-month highlight was taking our STMS Choir on the road for a special concert at Hartsfield Village in Munster. The Choir, under the direction of music teacher, Cory Andrzejewski, beautifully performed religious & classic Christmas songs for the Hartfield residents.



## 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 Sajn • Cindy Thompson

### Parish Ministries & Organizations

#### WORSHIP

##### Altar Servers

Kathy Tolnai (708)212-7419

##### Environment & Art

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

##### Eucharistic Adoration

Mona Hernandez (219)730-5860

##### Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

James Kaspar (219)836-2343

##### Greeters

Lisa Mendoza (219)902-9688

##### Lectors

Richard Gard (219)614-7322

##### Livestream Ministry

Joann Hajduch (219)836-9151, 2245

##### Music Ministry

Angie VanManen (219)836-8610, 2338

##### Nursery

Ann Harkenrider (708)567-5655

##### Ushers

Al Gallagher (312)493-8457

#### GROW

##### Altar & Rosary

Kaaren Mashura (219)836-5079

##### Bible Study – Wed. AM

Cindy Keilman (219)923-9862

##### Bible Study – Thurs. PM

Denise Gard (219)201-4103

##### Bible Study – Parents

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

##### Grateful Hearts Widows Ministry

Elaine Herrmann (219)902-0702

##### Holy Name Society

PJ Caraher (219)680-6775

##### Live Christ Share Christ

Deacon Tabion (219)836-8610, 2318

##### RCIA

Deacon Joe Stodola (219)680-6775

##### Seniors of STM

Judy Hamer (219)836-7916

##### Small Groups

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

##### T.G.I.F. Teen Ministry

Bernadine Barrett (219)781-1608

##### Vacation Bible School

Emily Hackett (219)836-8610, 2232

##### Vocation Guidance

PJ & Margaret Caraher (219)680-6775

#### SERVE

##### 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

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

#### Bulletin Editor

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

#### 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  
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[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

December 14, 2025

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Regular      | \$21,627.00        |
| Loose        | \$2,815.00         |
| Children     | \$2.00             |
| Automated    | \$8,187.53         |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$32,631.53</b> |

*Please remember St. Thomas More in your  
Will and Estate Planning.  
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