



Catholic Church Community of
St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

March 1, 2020

First Sunday of Lent



Parish Mission Statement:

St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church is a parish community striving to share the Spirit of Love through Prayer, Worship, the Sacraments, the Teachings of the Church, and our concern for others through Christian Stewardship.

Contact Numbers

| Rectory | Religious Ed | Outreach |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 631-234-5551 | 631-234-0397 | 631-234-3149 |
| FAX 631-234-6412 | FAX 631-234-1199 | FAX 631-234-1199 |

Website: <https://stmli.org>

Social Media

Facebook: StThomasMoreHauppauge
Instagram: stm_church

To receive texts or emails
from us just text

Spiritoflove to 84576 or
sign up @

StThomasMore29flocknotes.com

Masses for this coming week

March 1, 2020
 First Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
 Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11

Saturday, February 29

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Thomas Reilly *by the Cercone family*

Sunday, March 1—First Sunday of Lent

8:00am James J. Murphy *by Don & Joan Perks*

9:15am Ann Cardino *by Rose Picciano,*
 Toni Lamberta *by Joseph &*
 Linda Lamberta, James J. Murphy *by*
 Dcn. Ed & Laura Vigneaux, Ann Ribolini
 by Dcn. Ed & Laura Vigneaux,
 Violet Vecchio *by Allison Asta*

10:45am Charles Stepanek *by Marilyn & Joe Amodio*

12:15pm Thomas Santangelo *by Ginny Heim*

Monday, March 2

9am People of the Parish

Tuesday, March 3—St. Katharine Drexel

9am People of the Parish

Wednesday, March 4—St. Casimir

9am People of the Parish

Thursday, March 5

9am Betty Baker *by the STM Columbiettes*

Friday, March 6—First Friday

9am German Mansi & Nury Morcillo *by the*
Rodriguez family

Saturday, March 7—Sts. Perpetua and Felicity— First Saturday

9am People of the Parish

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Sophie Pankus *by Al Pankus*

Sunday, March 8—Second Sunday of Lent

8:00am Ted Muenkel *by Rosemarie & Bob Nick*

9:15am Judith Patchell *by the O'Brien family*

10:45am Edward L. Aiello *by Laura Alicastro &*
Vincent DeRosa, Louelle Murphy *by*
Evelyn McMahan, Eleanor Nolan *by*
Kathy Drechsler,

Walter Nurge *by Kathy Drechsler,*

Teresa Shannon *by Joe &*

Betty Ann Codispoti,

12:15pm Christopher Weidig *by Al & Eileen Weidig*

Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

March 8, 2020
 Second Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 12:1-4a
 Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22
 2 Timothy 1:8b-10
 Matthew 17:1-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,

“Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said,

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid.

But Jesus came and touched them, saying,

“Rise, and do not be afraid.”

And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them,

“Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Focus Questions:

1. How does your prayer life help you to listen to God?
2. Relate how your faith helped you to deal with disappointment and loss.
3. Describe a time when you had a “mountaintop experience”. How hard was it to get back to everyday life?

Family and children’s question:

The voice of God says “Listen to him.” How is your hearing these days?

FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

The devil, transformed into an angel of light, appeared to a monk in the desert and said, “I am the Angel Gabriel and I have been sent to thee by the Almighty.”

The monk replied, “Think again. You must have been sent to announce to someone else. I have done nothing to deserve the visit of an angel.”

With that the devil vanished and never again dared come anywhere near the monk. To be aware of who we are is the best weapon against any temptation.

The first Sunday of the Lent invites us to meditate on the temptations we struggle with. The Gospel narrates how Jesus silenced the tempting suggestions from the devil. Thrice, the Devil tempts Jesus with hypothetical “IF” inviting Him to live not His true self but His hypothetical self.

The first two times Jesus tries to reason out with Devil telling him that He need not live the way the Devil suggests in order to live His true self of being the Son of God. That is why Jesus does not make the stone into bread, or jump down from the pinnacle of the Temple in order to prove to Himself that He is the Son of God. But the third time when the devil trades Jesus’ true awareness of Son of God for the possession of whole world, Jesus harshly drives him away “Get away Satan!” No more argument or reasoning with the Devil... just cut him off.

Temptation is the moment when the Devil proposes to us to live an alternate lower self in the place of God-created true self. As long as we are aware of our inner identity of who we are and our inner spiritual strength to live that identity, we will win over our temptation. But we also need a strong will like Jesus to silence the Devil’s proposal just saying “Get away Satan!” Just believe in the God-given true self and start living it; then the Devil and temptation become powerless.

This year’s Lenten Project is to help those who were hit hard in Puerto Rico by the recent Hurricane Maria and an earthquake. As almsgiving is one of the three spiritual exercises of Lent (prayer, fasting and almsgiving) let us try to reach out to people suffering from lack of basic needs. Please donate your generous contribution in the “house” kept in the Narthex.

During Lent we pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 pm in the church for a particular intention. This Friday March 6th at 7:0-0 pm we pray the Stations for those who are looking for job, struggling to make ends meet without a full time job, and for those live in debt. All are welcome.

With love and prayers,
Fr. Antony

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Antony Asir, Pastor
Deacon Robert D. Weisz
Deacon Edward R. Vigneaux
Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico
Religious Education
Mary Ellen Carroll, Director
Parish Outreach
Staffed by volunteers
Music Ministry
Emilia Savarese, Facilitator
Youth Ministry
Dan Haggerty, Youth Minister

OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL LIFE

EUCCHARIST

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5pm
Sunday: 8am, 9:15am, 10:45am, 12:15pm
Weekday Mass: 9am, Monday through Saturday.

BAPTISM- As soon as your child is born, please call the Parish Office to make Baptism arrangements. Preparation session and welcoming Mass attendance are required.

MARRIAGE- As soon as a couple decides to marry, and BEFORE making any other arrangements, call the Church Office to schedule an appointment with the Parish

Office or one of the deacons.

RECONCILIATION- Celebrated in Church every Saturday from 4pm to 4:45pm, or by previous appointment with Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK- Call the Church Office to request visitation of the sick.

CONFIRMATION- Those who have not been confirmed should call the Parish Office to receive further information.

HOLY ORDERS- Contact the Parish Office for more information about the priesthood or diaconate.

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection of **February 23, 2020** \$6,829.25

Envelope users: Please enter the amount of your donation in the space provided on the envelope. This will greatly help us when counting the collection and for recording your contribution.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2020

as of February 25, 2020

Our Parish Goal \$70,400.00

Pledges to date \$ 9,230.83

Percentage of Goal 13.11%



This Spring, couples who have been married fifty years will be honored at a Mass on Sunday, **May 3, 2020** at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Smithtown.

Mass will begin at 2:00 p.m.,

Bishop Robert J. Coyle will preside. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the rectory. Space is limited; registration will be accepted on a first come first served basis. The forms can also be found on

www.drvc-faith.org.

If you have any questions you may call 516-678-5800, extension 223.

CALENDAR CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations!

Here are the winners from February 23-29, 2020

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|------|---------------------------|
| 2/23/2020 | 738 | \$50 | Ronald & Diane Castellano |
| 2/24/2020 | 389 | \$25 | James McGuire |
| 2/25/2020 | 337 | \$25 | Dave Holdorf |
| 2/26/2012 | 920 | \$25 | Linda Carlino |
| 2/27/2020 | 29 | \$25 | Cheryl & Joe Como |
| 2/28/2020 | 910 | \$25 | Richard Soldano |
| 2/29/2020 | 449 | \$25 | Andy & Kathy Turano |

OUR PRIEST CELEBRANTS

(Subject to last minute changes)

| | <u>This Weekend</u> (Feb. 29/Mar.1) | <u>Next Weekend</u> (March 7/8) |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>Saturday</u> | | |
| 5 pm | Fr. Antony | Msgr. Boccafolo |
| <u>Sunday</u> | | |
| 8 am | Fr. Fred | Fr. Antony |
| 9:15 am | Fr. Antony | Fr. Antony |
| 10:45 am | Msgr. Boccafolo | Fr. Fred |
| 12:15 pm | Fr. Alex | Fr. Antony |



MINISTRY MATTERS AT ST. THOMAS MORE

RCIA TEAM

Our Purpose and Responsibilities

To share our faith with those who express a desire to become a Catholic Christian and to lead them to the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

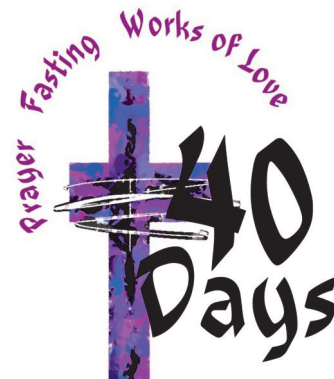
THE RCIA NEEDS EVERYONE

Just as it take an entire village to raise a child, it takes all the gifts and talents of a loving and prayerful community to make a committed Catholic Christian.

THEREFORE...

We invite ALL Members of St. Thomas More to join us in praying for those seeking to join us in our Faith Community and welcoming those who are now on their journey to the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

THE RCIA NEEDS EVERYONE!





PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mrs. Altman, Arlene, ASB, Dottie B, Carmela Beltrani, Louise Beltrani, Bernadette, Amanda Borowski, Patricia Brady, Lena Brennan, Pamela Brosnan, Barbara Cappisillo, Kathy Capuano, Dona Caragol, David Cartwright, Paul Connors, Eleanor & Michael Degen, Walt Drechsler Jr., Rosemarie Flore, Marilyn Gast, Jodi Casares George, Jerry Georgis, Anthony Giannelli, John Gilligan, Gina, Connie Giunta, John H, Angelina Harrington, Jacob Harrington, Olive Harrison, Tom H, Rita Hines, Laurie Holmes, Paula Izzo, Joseph Jacklets, Chris Kenney, Kevin Kenney, Shaun Kenney, Jean Marsala Kieffner, Jennifer Kort, Albert Kunz, Nicolas Lorusso, Lauren Lossani, Frances Madera, MaryLee Manfre, Maria, Rob McGurrin, Sharon Mills, Rosie Miranda, Kieran Mock, Ellen Murphy, Joan Nachtman, Pat O'Connell, Beatrice Okorn, Barbara P, Brienne P, Joe P, Rainey Pappas, Maura Reddy, Rosalie Rocchio, Sue Rukchael, Carlene, Robert & Kim Shenowitz, Robert Smith, John Spadaro, Peggy Stepanek, Robert Strommer, MaryAnn Tinger, Richard Tulipan, Chase Turano, Andrew J. Valentine, Andrew M. Valentine, Rosalind Warmuth, Diane Weisz, Janet Weil, Don Wieman, Pat Yezek, Ashley Zabelsky

This listing will expire on March 31, 2020.



Tune into “**Religion and Rock**” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00 AM-8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island’s East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Chanel* and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117.

This Sunday’s theme is **Renewal**, don’t miss it!. Next Sunday’s Theme (March 8) is **Commitment**. To listen online or receive more information regarding **Religion and Rock** go to www.ReligionandRock.com or at “Religion & Rock” on *ITUNES*.

Don’t forget to tune into CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 or visit www.cfntv.org

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Rocco A. Brunetti, our deceased loved ones and our deceased service men and women.

USING FAITH DIRECT? - It’s quick and easy! Consider having automatic deductions from either your checking or savings or use a credit card to support St. Thomas More each week. With Faith Direct, there is no fee to you! Please visit the Faith Direct website at www.FaithDirect.net to sign up: our church code is **NY227**. You may also use the form located where you obtain the bulletin or text the word ENROLL to 631-250-8141. We thank you for your support.

UPDATING CREDIT CARD INFORMATION—If you get a new card or a renewal card, make sure that this information is communicated to Faith Direct.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES—If you do not receive weekly envelopes and would like them mailed to you, please use the cut out that is in the bulletin and indicate that you wish to receive them on a regular basis. Usually it takes about two weeks for your request to be completed.

MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

We thank you for your support of our parish project to maintain our parish facilities. If you would like to help, please use a maintenance envelope where you obtain the bulletin.

CEREAL BOX TOP COUPONS—Drop them off in the Church lobby drop-off box and we will use them to buy things for the students in our regional school.

USED CELL PHONES—We thank everyone for giving us their old cell phones. We forward them to a convent that recycles them and uses the proceeds for the poor.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS—You can check online for any updates at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/stmreled>.

HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL, Commack, New York—Grades Nursery through 8th Grade. You may contact the school at parents@holyfamilyregional.com to schedule a tour of the parish’s regional school, or visit the school website at www.holyfamilyregional.com


PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Ethan Bernstein | Michael Knipper |
| Jessie Bernstein | Dylan Kowalski |
| Joseph Blaugrund | Thomas LaFemina |
| Anthony Broncatello | Alex Lombardi |
| John Burk | Andrew Lombardi |
| Collin Busto | Lt. Clint Lorange |
| David Chester | Scott Lovelock |
| John Chester | Andrew Lynch |
| Nicholas Chester | Troy A. Maida, |
| Theresa Chester | William Maley |
| Collin J. Crean | Thomas Migliara |
| Eddie Cullum | Tim Morris |
| Eric Cullum | Ryan Murphy |
| Adam Cussen | John Nachtman |
| David Cussen | Kaitlyn Nachtman |
| Capt. Sean Michael Dolan | Thomas Nichols |
| P. J. Erskin | Adam Papaizai |
| Timothy Fallon | Michael Poist |
| Major Michael Fantauzzi | Michael Polanski |
| Nicholas W. Flanary | Kyle Rathje |
| J.T. Foltz | Antonia Marie Rivera |
| Mike Foltz | Ann Karen Sanchez |
| Michael Gioia | Justin Schneider |
| Carl F. Greiner | Christopher Sidor |
| Philip Gudone | Christopher Singer |
| John Michael Haffner | Ryan Smith |
| Sean Hendrikson | Michael White |
| Tylor J. Hickey | |
| Kevin Ilyichenko | |
| John Karies | |

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE (Not totally inclusive)

- Sunday—March 1**
 10:45am—RCIA—Rel. Ed. Center
 3pm—Boy Scouts—Kitchen/Walden Hall
- Tuesday—March 3**
 7pm—Adoration—Church
 7pm—Bible Study—Church
- Wednesday—March 4**
 5pm—Knights of Columbus Bus. Mtg—Kit/WH
- Thursday—March 5**
 5:30pm—Children’s Choir Reh.—Church
 7:30pm—Adult Choir Reh.—Church
- Friday—February 28**
 12:30pm—Young At Heart—Kit/Walden Hall
 7pm—Stations of the Cross—Church

Would you like to receive a daily spiritual reflection during Lent or updates of what’s happening in our Parish? See below or go to StThomasMore29.flocknote.com



JUST TEXT THE WORD
"SpiritofLove"
TO 84576



Flocknote
 Keep in touch with us
VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE

The Office of FAITH FORMATION DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Register Online WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Building Intercultural Competence in Ministry -
A workshop addressing the changing cultural landscape in our Faith Formation Programs.

St. Frances Cabrini, Coram
 Thursdays, March 12, and 19, 2020
 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Or
Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt
 Mondays, March 2, 9, and 16, 2020
 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Basic Religious Studies Course Series
St. Mary's Elementary School Building, Manhasset
 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Old Testament
 Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2020



FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

AARP is offering free tax preparation service by IRS Certified volunteers at the Hauppauge, Commack, Kings Park, Central Islip and Connetquot Libraries and the Smithtown Senior Center. You do not have to be a member of the AARP, nor do you have to be over 50 years old to use this service; it is available to everyone. Just call your library or the senior center to make an appointment.



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

Warning! - An Organized Effort to Drive Religion Out of the Public Square

During a Jan. 28 radio interview with Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Attorney General William Barr contended the First Amendment is under assault and that "militant secularists" are trying to impose their secular values on religious people. "To me, the problem today is not that religious people are trying to impose their views on nonreligious people, it's the opposite - it's that militant secularists are trying to impose their values on religious people and they're not accommodating the freedom of religion of people of faith."⁽¹⁾

"Religion was viewed by the Founders as ... essential to maintaining a free country. We believe in the separation of church & state, but what permits a limited government and minimal command and control of the population and allows people to have freedom of choice in their lives ... is the fact that they are a people capable of disciplining themselves according to moral values."⁽²⁾

Little Sisters, Sued by Some States, Going Back to Supreme Court - for 3rd Time!

The Little Sisters of the Poor are a Catholic charitable order, founded in 1839, that cares for the elderly poor by operating 30 nursing homes across the country. These homes have lay staff for whom the Little Sisters provide group health insurance. Then - in 2012, the federal and some state governments decided that under the newly passed Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Sisters must ignore their beliefs and include contraception and abortion-inducing drugs in their insurance coverage or face crippling fines.

2013 - The Supreme Court issued an injunction protecting the Little Sisters but the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against them.

2014 - The Supreme Court ruled that closely held companies - mostly family owned businesses - are exempt from the contraception mandate.

2016 - The Supreme Court heard the 10th Circuit's case against the Sisters and unanimously overturned their ruling.

2018 - This administration issued a new rule that contains an exemption for religious ministries in relation to the ACA.

Then - Several states sued the federal government and targeted the Little Sisters in particular by arguing that they are not religious enough, thereby forcing them to abandon their core beliefs and provide contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs.

2020 - The Supreme Court will again hear this case. (firstthings.com; crisismagazine.com; thefederalist.com, 1/30/20; johnbwellsnews.com, 1/31/20(1); go-pusa.com, 1/30/20(2))

It is simply unreasonable for government to demand that the Sisters violate their consciences and put a wall between their faith and their good works. Archbishop William E. Lori



We pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the Church



CIRCLE OF WOMEN

It is the mission of the Circle of Women Book Group to focus on the spiritual influence of contemporary writing that facilitates our own reflections of God's action in our daily lives.

Our next meeting will be on March 9, 2020 at 2:30 pm. The book for discussion will be

Educated by Tara Westover—

Facilitator: Aurelie Miller-Hendry

We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2:30 pm in the Meeting Room. For further and/or to register, call Marilyn at 631-234-5805 or Joan at 631-234-1739.

SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL

Websites

www.stmli.org

<https://stmyouth.wixsite.com/stmyouthhauppauge>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreHauppauge/>

Instagram

stm_church

• stmreligiousd

• stm_yg

Email

Rectory:

rectory@stmli.org

Mary Ellen Carroll:

mecarroll@optonline.net

Outreach:

outreach@stmli.org

Dan Haggerty:

youthminister@stmli.org

Altar Servers Ministry:

altarservers@stmli.org

Personal Prayer

SpiritualOrientations.com

To contact a member of the Pastoral Council use the following:

Barbara & Joe Fratamico at

BJFRAT@optonline.net

PARISH OUTREACH
“Give us this day our daily bread”



Our current needs include:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Canned Fruit | Coffee/Tea** |
| Tomato Sauce** | Soup** (18-22 oz) |
| Canned Tomatoes**(28 Oz) | Macaroni & Cheese |
| Jelly** | Boxed Milk** |
| Canned Vegetables** | Cereal** |
| Mustard/Ketchup | Pasta |
| Spaghetti** | Peanut Butter** |
| Individual Canned Meals | Liquid Laundry Detergent** |
| (i.e., Chef Boyardee) | Shampoo |
| Tuna** | Toothpaste** |

** We are in great need of these items as we often run low on them.

Non-perishable foods may be left in the bins at the entrance to the Narthex. We are always grateful for your generosity!

Outreach is open Monday to Thursday 10 AM to 2 PM
Phone: 631-234-3149

We will be starting our Easter food and basket drive at the end of the month. If you are in need of empty baskets, please contact the Outreach office. We received a generous donation of baskets.

Everyone Counts – Census 2020

Will my information be kept confidential?

Strict federal law protects your census responses. Census employees take a **lifelong** pledge of confidentiality to keep information private. The penalty for wrongful disclosure is a fine up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to five years, or both.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Lent is a call to "give alms for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they call on SVdP for aid. They are, in effect, calling you.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call us at 631 648 2760 so that together we can help.

YOUNG AT HEART

The St. Patrick's Day catered lunch will be on Friday, March 6th at 12:30pm. Paid members only.

CHURCH IN NEED COLLECTION

The Church in Need

On March 1st, 2020 a collection will be taken for “The Church in Need.” The monies collected at this time will be shared among three areas of the world where there is a particular need for help:

- **Church in Central and Eastern Europe** - this collection supports the Church in more than 20 countries that still struggle to recover from Communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation.
- **The Church in Latin America** - for many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.
- **The Church in Africa** - although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. Many suffer due to high rates of poverty and unemployment, illiteracy, and poor education. The Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects that foster

Farewell Fr. Alex—Viacon Dio



Fr. Alex has helped us during the summer for the last six years when he was studying Liturgy and Missiology in the Pontifical Urban University, Rome.

In June of 2019 he completed his thesis and earned the title, Doctor Alexander Mariadass, Ph.D. He has spent the last few months in the USA to get his book published. Now the time has come for him to return to his Diocese of Coimbatore, India at the end of March.

We thank Fr. Alex for his ministry among us and we wish him all the best for his future ministry. May God bless him and flourish his ministry as witness for God's love and generosity.

All the best and Bon Voyage Fr. Alex

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

(First Notice)

Hauppauge High School Robotics Team is hosting a Military Bridge event on **Friday March 20th** at the Hauppauge High School Commons. \$10 per person to play, doors open at 6:00pm and the game begins at 7:00pm. Raffles and light refreshments sold. All proceeds benefit Hauppauge Robotics Team 358

(Second Notice)

You are invited to attend or support *Hauppauge Educational Foundation's An Evening with Sinatra with sponsors, New Beginnings and the Jazz Loft*—**Saturday, March 14th from 7 to 10pm—Jazz Loft, 275 Christian Ave., Stonybrook, NY.** \$45 per son; Light Refreshments. Purchase tickets through [https://Hauppaugeeducationalfoundation.ticketspice.com/Sinatra evening](https://Hauppaugeeducationalfoundation.ticketspice.com/Sinatra%20evening).

PRAYING FOR THE SICK**— Adding a name Request —**

**PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO
THE PARISH LISTING OF THOSE WHO
ARE ILL:**

Name of person (s) who is (are) ill:

Relationship to the person who is ill:

Person making the Request:

TODAY'S DATE:

*(Please place in collection basket or drop off
at Church Office)*

CHURCH MINISTRIES

**THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A
LITURGICAL MINISTER OR WANT TO
SHARE YOUR TALENTS?**

Please complete the following form:

I would like to volunteer in the following parish ministry:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Server | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usher | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RCIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy with Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lector | <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharistic Minister |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consolation Minister | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping/ Planting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rosary Altar Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Cana |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for Altar Plants | <input type="checkbox"/> FOCCUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Lending Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Banner Committee |

Name::

Address:

Phone:

Please return to the Rectory for processing.

2019 CONTRIBUTION REQUEST

I/we would like a record of our 2019 contributions to
St. Thomas More:

NAME(s)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-mail:

Please return to the Rectory for processing.

**REGISTRATION and/or
ENVELOPE REQUEST**

NAME(s):

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

I/we would like to register in the parish.

Please send contribution envelopes.

I am already registered in the parish but do not
receive contribution envelopes. I would like to receive
them.

Other _____

*(Please return in collection or return to Church
Office)*

St. Thomas More Employment Services

*Are you presently unemployed and looking for a part-time or full-time job? * Do you have or know of any job openings? If so, call our Employment Services Office, 234.4629 and leave a message for Mae Devine or call Mae on Monday mornings. Calls are kept in strict confidence.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Aides at Home Inc. Home health aides and personal care aides— part & full time. Will provide free certification training. Call Suzanne Dunn at 516-641-2273.

Cablevision - Account executives sales for potential customers—canvassing assigned territory— Excellent benefits. Understand state of the Art Digital Video - PC skills - outstanding benefits. Residential Account Executive— 4 days, 12-9, Sat. 9-6 —canvassing assigned territory for potential customers, follow up leads from customer contacts.

Catholic Charities—many positions both full time & part time available— check Employment Bulletin Board outside Walden Hall for complete list.

Per Diem Driver—Chemical Dependence Services—Commack

Catholic Health Services of LI 1) Openings-Client Services-Patient Financial Systems & several others. Competitive Benefits.

2) **Superintendent Helper Male** Central Islip Condo-Windbrooke Homes drivers lic., \$13.00 per hr.—15 hrs.

Geico Insurance—Sales reps, mgt. trainees, claim services reps. —750 Woodbury Rd, Woodbury, NY. 9am –3pm, M-F, Open House, but apply on line first. Valid Photo ID required.

Healthcare Opportunities -

1. Good Samaritan Hospital, 631.969.8200

2. Mather Hospital, 631.476.2774

3. Brookhaven Hospital, 631.447.3708

4. Maryhaven, 631.474.4120, X212 - Contact Maryhaven directly

New Beginnings Pre School in Hauppauge—needs an Infant and a Toddler Teacher—631-360-0039

Newsday Media Group--Account executives for sales. Excellent benefits including matching 401K

Newspaper Delivery—Excellent 2nd income—early AM hours—car & valid NYS license.

Panera--Now hiring FT/PT Associates, Bakers and Shift Supervisors.

School Bus Drivers—Flexible hours—Bus Drivers. & Van Drivers. Excellent Benefits-Call now for training. Retirees welcome.

7-Eleven--Owner is a member of St. Thomas More--Multiple positions - PT- minimum age 17. Students welcome.

ShopRite Supermarket--Various positions open; apply on-line or go to ShopRite in Hauppauge.

Suffolk Bus Drivers--Suffolk Co. Bus Company hiring drivers. Contact Suffolk Bus Company.

St. Catherine of Siena—

1. **Nursing Home**—Nurse Practitioners, RN supervisors, Recreation Therapists, FT/PT nights, P/T days and weekends, Rehab PT/ FT—dietary;

2. **Hospital**—Lab Technologist & Medical Lab assistant. Physical Therapists

3. **Physical Therapy Aides**—PT/ Sport Services, Hauppauge. Mon. thru Fri., days and evenings.

4. **Nurse Manager**—MRI techs, CT techs, Lab techs.

The Garage—Drivers & Delivery—To deliver orders PT.

US Census Bureau—Census takers for the 2020 Census.. Paid training. Flexible hours, \$23.50 per hr. Contact 1-855-JOB-2020.

See “Civil Service Notice” posted on the bulletin board for future Civil Service Exams. For more information about any of the listed positions please call 234-4629. Note - All babysitting, infant child care, nanny, home care aides, etc. positions are in the child’s home. References are required for all of these positions including nursing aides, home health care aides, etc. It is the responsibility of the employer to check all references prior to hiring.

****We have a list of names of those willing to baby-sit in their homes.

****We have a list of certified tutors for all Grades.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

LENT 2020

Dear Friends:

The season of Lent offers us a sacred time for contemplating what it means to accompany Our Lord as he carries the Cross.

During his Passion, we see Christ laboring under the burden of our sufferings and of those whom we love. As the prophet Isaiah says, "*He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows*" (cf. Is 53:4), and he still carries them today. Perhaps this year we might pray for the grace to accompany more closely our neighbors and loved ones who are suffering, and so participate in Christ's own sacrificial love as he shoulders their burdens.

Throughout our Diocese there are many who are suffering. We know this. Every parish has its stories of families experiencing hardship and loss. Our hospitals and shelters have their stories. Our nursing homes and schools have theirs. Indeed, we find the Cross in our own homes. Our parents and grandparents know heartache, and our children have burdens as well. Our Lord carries them all.

Perhaps you know a person who is sick or grieving the loss of a loved one. Maybe you know someone who is suffering from addiction or depression and is tempted to despair. Perhaps you know of someone who is lonely or has been altogether abandoned. It is good to remember that Our Lord is carrying each of them already with great love, placing his sheep on his shoulders (cf. Lk 15:5). And this Good Shepherd invites us to accompany him in holiness that we might share more fully in his mission.

Consider the figure of Simon of Cyrene. We know him from the Fifth Station of the Cross and from the Synoptic Gospels. He was compelled to carry the Cross of Christ (cf. Mt 27:32; Mk 15:21; Lk 23:26). We recognize his initial fear; it is the same as our own. We do not fault Simon for his resistance. Helping Jesus could not have been easy. And yet with God's grace what began as servitude was transformed into a gesture of compassion, even a sublime privilege.

To be sure, we may have cause to be fearful of accompanying Christ under the Cross. Social stigmas associated with some sufferings may cause us to stay away. We might fear our own inadequacies; weaknesses and wounds can cause self-doubt. We may even feel some degree of responsibility for the person's suffering: "*I could have done more*". Simon would have experienced these fears as Christ was passing by. Indeed, he needed to be driven by the Roman soldiers to accompany Jesus (cf. Mk 15:21). But the gaze of Christ prevailed on Simon and moved him beyond his fear.

Christ himself prayed in the garden before taking up the Cross, "*Father if it be possible, let this cup pass*", but he saw the Father's love for humanity and was moved to pray, "*yet not as I will, but as you will*" (cf. Mt 26:39). Love bends the will to the other. It was Christ's love that changed Simon's servitude into sacrifice. And it is Christ's love that can transform our fear into accompaniment.

As your bishop, I have the privilege of seeing that so many of you are already living as Simon, already accompanying Christ who carries the burdens of your neighbors and loved ones. I visit your homes and pray with you in your parishes. I witness your dedication to the people of your ministries and organizations. And I see that many of you, like Simon, allow the gaze of Christ to draw you underneath the weight of the Cross, where your own servitude becomes a privileged encounter with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and an encouragement to us all.

In light of this witness, I wish to bring particular attention to the newly formed Morning Star Initiative, designed to revitalize Catholic elementary school education on Long Island. I ask all of you to pray for our parishes and schools, our administrators and teachers, our students and their families, and all who are promoting a bold new era of Catholic education and evangelization on Long Island.

This way of sharing in the life of Christ moves us beyond imitation into a real participation with him in his relationship with the Father. The Cross is not a punishment to be endured; it is a decision to love. "*He was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities*" (cf. Is 53:5). And when we move in this way toward others in their need, our experience of their suffering is transformed from a burden into an encounter with love. We find, with Simon, that our servitude becomes a mysterious privilege of accompaniment. Underneath the weight of a cross carried with love, we see Jesus.

Too often we feel regret for not drawing near to those who are suffering. Let us pray during this holy season, this season of conversion, for the grace to recognize the gaze of Christ in those who are suffering and to respond to his invitation to share in his Cross. In this way, the Church on Long Island will grow together with Our Lord in grace.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning of the first name.

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

**BOY SCOUTS MASS AT ST THOMAS MORE—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020.
THE SCOUTS PRAYED FOR BLESSINGS TO SERVE GOD, COUNTRY AND TO LIVE A
LIFE OF DISCIPLINE**



**Our next Parish Holy Hour will be held on
Tuesday, March 3, 2020, from 7-8 PM in the
Church.**



What is done at Holy Hour?

Adoration: The Blessed Sacrament is placed in a monstrance and we the faithful have an opportunity to enter into prayer and peaceful meditation with our Lord truly present. Time is alternated between silent prayer and spoken prayer.

Evening Prayer (Vespers): These are the daily prayers said in the evening by the whole Church, from the Liturgy of the Hours. We join our prayers with clergy, religious and lay persons around the world, praying as one.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: This is a devotional prayer recited on the beads of the Rosary, asking God to continue to shower us with his mercy.

Benediction: At the end of the hour, chants and prayers in praise of our Lord are recited, and we are actually blessed by Christ as the celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross over the assembly with the monstrance.

Why should I attend a Holy Hour?

We all need to take time for ourselves, to slow life down for just one hour. In sacrificing that one hour, we give God a precious gift, the gift of our time.

As we give that gift to him, he richly pours out his grace upon us. We sit before our very Lord, present in the Eucharist. We offer praise, thanksgiving and homage to the one who sets us free from sin and death, and who gives us the opportunity for eternal life with him.

Jesus wants to communicate his love for us. We just need to take the time to hear him. Adoration is a powerful way to do this.

Come join us!

OUR PRE-CANA COUPLES HAVE COMPLETED THE COURSE FOR THEIR MARRIAGE PREPARATION AND ARE GETTING READY TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE. CONGRATULATIONS!



Our 7th graders made a promise to seriously engage themselves in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. Last Sunday, they celebrated their rite of acceptance



PLEASE JOIN US
PARISH LENTEN MISSION

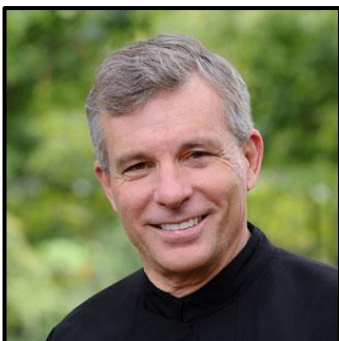


LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR

MARCH 23-25, 2020

9:00am and 7:00pm

LED BY FATHER BOB JOERGER, C.P.



Father Bob is a native of Brooklyn and a member of the Passionist Community. Ordained in 1977, he served as retreat director of Saint Gabriel's Youth Retreat House on Shelter Island before being elected Provincial of the Eastern USA/Canada/Caribbean Passionist Province. He served in that position for sixteen years. He currently preaches Missions and Retreats. In addition to his studies for the priesthood, Father Bob also attended the Institute for Culinary Education in NYC.



ST. Thomas More

Msgr. Francis S Midura

Council 6062

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Following the 5 PM Mass

All are invited with their families to the St. Patrick's Day Dinner as part of the Council's Annual Holiday Party. The cost will be \$15.00 per person.

Fare for the evening will be Corned Beef and Cabbage, potatoes and carrots along with my homemade Irish Soda Bread, beer and soda. Provisions will also be made for Irish Coffee.

Tickets will be available after all masses in the Narthex Starting February 22nd.

March 13 is the deadline for reservations. Any questions feel free to contact me.

Ed Rogan, PGK

Email: eroganjr@verizon.net

631-366-1085

