



Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

August 9, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus Calms the Storm

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

631-234-5551

FAX 631-234-6412

Religious Ed

631-234-0397

FAX 631-234-1199

Outreach

631-234-3149

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 @

StThomasMore29.flocknote.com

Masses for this coming week

August 9, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time`

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

Psalm: 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14: 22-23

Saturday, August 8

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Stanley R. Hludzinski *by Robert & Louisa
Sanfratello*

Sunday, August 9—Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Robert Algar *by Judy Coyle*

9:15am Attracta Fallon *by Margaret & Fintan
Stapleton*

10:45am People of the Parish

12:15pm Patricia O'Connell *by Marti & John White*

Monday, August 10—St. Lawrence

9am Mae Devine *by Arlene & John Aspromgos*

Tuesday, August 11—St. Clare

9am Joseph Sanfilippo *by the Cherubino family*

Wednesday, August 12—St. Jane Frances de

Chantal

9am Mae Devine *by Lou & Ann Anatrella*

Thursday, August 13—St. Pontian and St. Hippolytus

9am Mae Devine *by Lou & Emilia Savarese*

Friday, August 14—St. Maximilian Kolbe

9am Sandra A. Kowalski *by Ken Kowalski &
Mary*

Saturday, August 15—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9am— John Garvey *by family*

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Frank Pankus *by Al Pankus*

Sunday, August 16—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am People of the Parish

9:15am Pantaleo G. Alicastro *by Vicki & Jim Regan*

10:45am People of the Parish

12:15pm Bill Eyring *by Marti & John White*

Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

August 15, 2020

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a

Psalm: 45:10, 11, 12, 16

1 Corinthians 15:20-27

Luke 1:39-56

A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke:

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, and has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever."

Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

“No wind is a good wind if you don’t know where the harbor is.” Both power and direction are inevitably essential for the journey towards the destination. A journey without direction is waste of power. A travel without power would be a useless wandering.

Today’s Gospel story empowers and enlightens/directs our journey of life. When Jesus affirmed to his disciple that it was HE who is walking on the water and not a ghost, Peter asked Jesus “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” Jesus consented to his request and empowered him to walk on the water. That means, that whoever believes in me (Jesus) will do the works that Jesus does, and will do greater ones than these. (John 14:12).

Peter was empowered by Jesus to walk on the water as long as his focus was on Jesus. But when fear of the strong wind overtook his faith-focus on Jesus, Peter began to sink. Saving the sinking Peter, Jesus explains to him why his walk on the water towards Him failed, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” Faith in Jesus empowers the believer.

In the journey of life Jesus is the power and direction for His believers. Faith in Jesus empowers them to walk their journey on any surface - air, water or hard ground. That is to say Jesus is power to live any situation in life. Also faith makes the believer focus on Jesus not on the frightening storm or raging waters. That is to say Faith-Focus on Jesus puts the believer on the right direction for the journey of life. Or else like Peter we may have power to walk on the water, but fear (lack of Faith-Focus) will weaken and blind our direction and collapse our journey of life.

Thank you very much for all your financial support to our Parish. You had been so faithful in sending your weekly offering envelopes even when the church was closed, and still continue to keep the church go strong when we are partially opened. Now when we are partially opened with caution and social distancing I admire how people help volunteering on weekends and every day in seating the people, in sanitizing the church after the worship, in preparing the parking lot and directing the cars before and after the parking lot mass.

Before the lock-down we used to have five masses during the week ends. Now during the partial opening we have just three masses Saturday 5:00 pm in the Church, Sunday 9:30 am in the parking lot and 12:00 noon in the Church. About 75 to 90 people attend the masses in the Church. About 75 to 100 cars are present at the parking lot mass. The attendance is slowly but steadily increasing. So the collection is not as it used to be. Our collection is about 65% of what it used to be before the Lock-down.

Please take your time to embolden and encourage yourself to join the worship. In order to help exercise and grow your faith we record Holy Mass every day and post it on our parish website “stmli.org”. Also we live streamline the Saturday 5:00 pm Mass and post it on our parish website for you to watch and pray at your convenient time on Sunday. Please continue to support the Parish either in person at the mass or by sending your envelopes by mail. God bless you. We continue to pray for you and your families.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Antony



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

Christian Persecution - *Renounce Your Faith or No Food!*

China: The Chinese Communist Party is forcing Christians to renounce their beliefs and replace religious symbols and imagery of Jesus with portraits of Chairman Mao and President Xi Jinping or be cut off from welfare payments, according to a recent U.S. State Department publication.

"The government is trying to eliminate our belief and wants to become God instead of Jesus." ⁽¹⁾

"All impoverished religious households can't receive money from the state for nothing - they must obey the Communist Party for the money they receive," said a communist official. ⁽²⁾

Kenya: A pastor in northeastern Kenya reports Christians are being denied food relief during the COVID-19 crisis. "The sad state of Christians in Kenya is being unpublished ... Many Christians are suffering at the hands of the local chiefs who oversee the fair distribution of the government's relief food..." ⁽³⁾

Pakistan: Christian leaders are reporting Christians were denied government food aid amid the coronavirus crisis. "There was an announcement made through a mosque's loudspeaker ... inviting citizens to collect government's announced foodstuffs," a local pastor reported. "When Christians reached the distribution point and presented their national identity cards, they were asked to get out of line claiming the foodstuff was only for Muslim citizens." ⁽⁴⁾

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom condemned the rejection of Christians and Hindus for food aid. "These actions are simply reprehensible," said the Commissioner. "As COVID-19 continues to spread, vulnerable communities within Pakistan are fighting hunger..." ⁽⁵⁾

"The inconvenient truth," reported British foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt in 2019, is "that the overwhelming majority (80%) of persecuted believers are Christians. In the Middle East the population of Christians used to be about 20%; now it's 5%... We've all been asleep on the watch when it comes to the persecution of Christians." ⁽⁶⁾

(dailywire.com, 7/21/20(1); 1.cbn.com, 7/19/20(2); christiannews.net, 5/24/20(3); jihadwatch.org, 4/7/20(4); christiannews.net, 4/23/20(5); christianpersecution.com, 6/9/20; theguardian.com, 5/2/19(6))

Silent No More!

The Bishops of the United States remind us that, "In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation."

- USCCB's *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*

Elected officials and their staff listen to, read and tabulate citizens' concerns and opinions when making decisions for their state and for the country. Do not be silent. Please contact one or more Senator or Congressman each week to encourage those who share your Catholic values and to inform others.

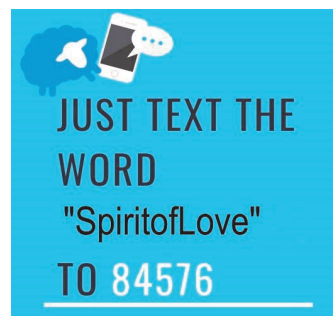
***Call** Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to be connected to any Representative or Senator's office

***Email:** Find Representative's emails t www.house.gov
Find Senator's emails at www.senate.gov

*"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do. -
Edward Everett*

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



Congratulations!

Here are the winners from August 2—8, 2020

8/2/2020	562	\$50	William Waters
8/3/2020	195	\$25	Aurelia & John Hendry
8/4/2020	277	\$25	Evelyn & Bob McMahon
8/5/2020	788	\$25	Dorothy Lossani
8/6/2020	583	\$25	Virginia Zablocki
8/7/2020	264	\$25	Michael & Kathleen O'Brien
8/8/2020	891	\$25	Ed & Arleen Rogan

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 Lorance |
| 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 | |



Assumption statue, 1808 by [Mariano Gerada](#), [Ghaxaq](#), [Malta](#)

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2020

Mass at 9:00 am & 5:00 pm

The Catholic Church teaches as [dogma](#) that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
2020**

as of July 28, 2020

Our Parish Goal	\$70,400.00
Pledges to date	\$29,387.00
<i>Percentage of Goal</i>	<i>41.7%</i>

SUPPORT COLLECTION

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.

St. Thomas More Parish needs your support now more than ever! Join the parishioners who are using Faith Direct for automated giving to St. Thomas More Parish. Faith Direct offers a safe and secure way to donate to our parish in this time of uncertainty. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/NY227, or text 'Enroll' to 631-250-8141. You can also make a one-time gift by texting a dollar amount to the same number.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You,
Fr. Antony

SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL

Websites

www.stmli.org

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

Facebook

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

Instagram

- stm_church
- stmreligioused
- 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

RCIA NEOPHYTES

Blessings and congratulations to our neophytes (newly initiated) who were fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please welcome our new brothers and sisters; Anthony Vigo, Rick Vigo, Ping Fennekohl, Cynthia Leon, Nina Leon, Marissa Abram, Eric Abram, and Aidan Lapore. We thank them for enriching our parish with their love, goodness, and faith fullness. The RCIA Team wants to thank all members of Saint Thomas More for sharing the spirit of love with our neophytes throughout their extended journey.

RCIA people who received sacraments plus team members



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 September 14, 2020. The book for discussion will be **Circling the Sun** by Paula McLain—Facilitator Marti White.

We meet on the second Monday of the month. For further info. and/or to register, call Marilyn at 631-234-5805 or Joan at 631-234-1739.



Pre-Cana Couples

Please remember in your prayers the following couples who are currently participating in our St. Thomas Pre-Cana Program:

- Maggie Beyer & Eric Le Claire
- Patricia McCaffrey & Daniel Sullivan
- Savannah Todaro & Jonathan Marinozzi
- Brittany Nevins & Philip Schaefer.



*
Weather permitting.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Brian B, Louise Beltrani, Pamela Brosnan, Erin Burke, Kathy Capuano, Paul Connors, Veronica Corvasce, Ginny Deserio, Diane DiChristina, Walt Drechsler Jr., Sr. Alexius Fitzgerald, Michael Forentin, Rosemarie Flore, Marilyn Gast, Gail, Laurie Holmes, Richard Kane, Kevin Kenney, Jean Marsala Kieffner, Lauren Lossani, Robert McGurrin, Joan Nachtman, Mary Ann O'Gara, Al Pankus, Rita Platia, Maura Reddy, Rosalie Rocchio, Joyce Rose, Jerry Smith, Peggy Stepanek, Richard Tulipan, Chase Turano, Andrew J. Valentine, Andrew M. Valentine, Rosalind Warmuth, Diane Weisz, Janet Weil, Don Wieman, Pat Yezek, Ashley Zabelsky, Denise Zappia

Please re-submit names of those people you wish to put on our Sick List.

This listing will expire on September 30, 2020.



During these difficult times, as a family of faith, we turn to our Heavenly Father in prayer. You are invited to submit your prayer intentions and those of your family. All prayer intentions will be placed in a basket near the altar in St Thomas More before each Mass. We are streaming Sunday Mass on Saturday at 5pm at www.stmli.org. Daily mass is posted Monday through Friday on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com). The basket will serve as a silent reminder that we are united in faith, hope and love as we lift one another up in prayer and support, while placing our trust in the Lord.

“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.”

St. Therese of Lisieux

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

John R. Keane, Stella Cifuni, for all those who have succumbed to COVID-19, 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>.

Back to School Assistance Needed for our Families

Our families are in need of school supplies!

In light of the current pandemic and the uncertainty of what school will look like, we are asking for donations of gift cards (Walmart or Target) so our families can directly purchase what they need (supplies, clothing, shoes, etc.)

Any help you can give our families will be greatly appreciated.

St. Thomas More Parish Outreach



St. Thomas More Parish Social Ministry
OUTREACH



“Give us this day our daily bread”

Our current needs include:

Pancake Mix**

Syrup**

Boxed Milk**

Jelly**

Canned Tomatoes (28 oz)

Paper Towels

Canned Vegetables

Mustard/Ketchup

Spaghetti

Tea

Rice

Canned Fruit

Soup (18-22 oz)

Tomato Sauce

Tuna

Macaroni & Cheese

Coffee (1 pound cans/bags)

Cereal

Pasta

Peanut Butter (smaller jars)

Shampoo

Toothpaste

****We are especially in need of these items**

Our neighbors continue to need food. Please help if you can!

Non-perishable foods may be left in the bins at the entrance to the Narthex.

We are always grateful for your generosity!

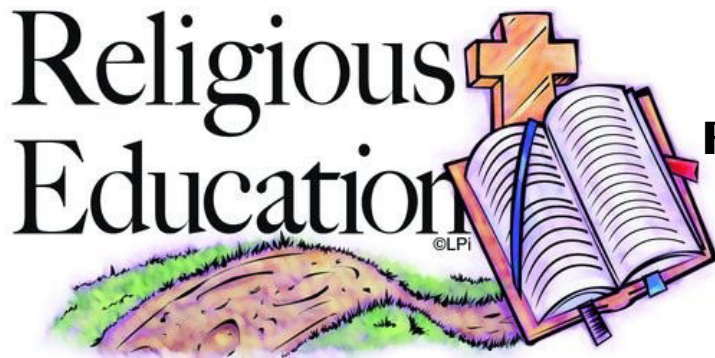
Outreach is now open Monday and Thursday 10 AM to 1 PM

Phone: 631-234-3149

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In this Gospel, Jesus immediately stretched out His hand and caught Peter and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Please assist the Society of St. Vincent de Paul bring respite and hope to the elderly who are not able to find relief from the summer heat, and you will bring them faith and hope!



St Thomas More
Religious Education Registration
2020/2021 School Year
— Sharing the Spirit of Love —

Registration
information



For families with a child entering First Grade or are new to the parish—
Please call 631-234-0397 so we may mail you the forms for registration.

It is required that we have your child's baptism certificate on file
if they were baptized in another parish.

We will mail the re-registration materials home to families whose children
are already in our program.

Online registration is available to families who are already in the program

Just follow this link

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/4843>