



Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

August 23, 2020

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



THE KEYS OF THE *Kingdom* OF *Heaven*

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 23, 2020

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22: 19-23

Psalm: 138: 1-2, 2-3, 6-8

Romans: 11:33-36

Matthew 16:13-20

Saturday, August 22

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Jaime Rodriguez *by the family*

**Sunday, August 23—Twenty-First Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

8:00am Paul Kanischak *by Mal & Rita Malavet*

9:15am People of the Parish

10:45am Dolores Esposito *by the Cangialosi family*

12:15pm Raymond Willie *by the Long Island
Swimming Officials Association;
Charles & Veronica Marsala,
Joe & Phyllis Trezza by Jim &
Marie Marsala, Mary Lilly & Francine Burdi
by Ken Kowalski & Mary.*

Monday, August 24—St. Bartholomew

9am Rev. Peter Miqueli *by Vie Zehrer*

**Tuesday, August 25—St. Louis, St. Joseph
Calasanz**

9am Diane Gabriel *by BettyAnn & Joe Codispoti*

Wednesday, August 26

9am Frank Trezza *by Paul & Elena McGuinness*

Thursday, August 27—St. Monica

9am Frank Trezza *by Ken Alberici*

Friday, August 28—St. Augustine

9am Ruth McDonald *by Chris & Andrew Paino*

**Saturday, August 29—The Passion of St. John the
Baptist**

9am— People of the Parish

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Robert Algar *by Fintan & Margaret
Stapleton*

**Sunday, August 30—Twenty-Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

8:00am Rose Borowski *by Paul, Kathy & Amanda
Borowski*

9:15am Johnathon & Maribel Calcagna—15 year
Wedding Anniversary

10:45am Barbara Innes *by Bob & Evelyn McMahon,
Maria Krol by Michele Brosnan*

12:15pm Jean Noschese *by The Friendship Circle*

Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

August 30, 2020

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalm: 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew:

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.

Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him,

“God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.”

He turned and said to Peter,

“Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me.

You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

Then Jesus said to his disciples,

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?

Or what can one give in exchange for his life?

For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct.”

FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

“Caddy: Let me say this about your game, mister. I wouldn't say you were the worst golfer I have ever seen on this course, but I've seen places today that I've never seen before.” What a clever caddy! The caddy was gentle enough to reveal to the golfer the best he did in his worst game. His bad game made the caddy see places in the golf course for the first time.

Today's Gospel narrates how each of us is blessed by God to reveal the best in others, and in the process of that revelation we get the best in us revealed. When the disciples exhausted reporting about what people say of Jesus, Jesus asked them what they say of Him. Peter said that Jesus is Christ (Messiah), the Son of God. Jesus acknowledged Peter's reply and attested that his reply is not from his own discovery but from God's inspiration. Then Jesus revealed to Peter that he is the rock on which Jesus would build His Church and whatever he does, will have its own effect in Heaven. When Peter acknowledges God's revelation to him about Jesus, Jesus makes Peter aware of God's revelation about him.

This is what happens for those who believe in God. When the believers accept God's revelation to them about God, they would realize that God would reveal their own worth to them. Belief in God is not just about God but more so about the believer.. God is not affected in any way by our believing or denying Him. Believing in God reveals to us our worth, how our existence here on earth has a purpose and how God graciously empowers us to live that purpose as the meaning of our living. Let our belief in God enlighten and empower us.

The Parking lot Mass was rained out and was celebrated in the church: Last Sunday, August 16th we could not celebrate mass at 9:30 am in the Parking lot because of the rain. Our general understanding is to celebrate the 9:30 am mass in the church whenever the weather does not permit us to do it in the Parking Lot. About 80 people attended the mass.

Parking lot mass is the most attended mass. But the inclement weather and the vulnerability of attending the indoor mass at this virus time make some of our people restrict themselves from indoor masses. I only want to reassure you that the 9:30 am mass is always celebrated either in the parking lot in good weather and inside the church in inclement weather. So please take your time to heal and embolden yourself to worship with us indoors whenever we cannot celebrate the outdoor mass.

Parish office and the religious education will begin to work their regular working hours from Monday, August 31st.

Parish Rectory Office: Monday to Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00pm

Religious Education Office: Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Religious Education started registering children for religious formation classes. Please spread the news to young families and welcome them to join the formation of faith.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Antony



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

Creative Christians Find Unique Places to Worship

Worshippers met in a local Walmart on June 26 in North Versailles, PA, after Gov. Tom Wolf ordered that individuals "should not gather in religious buildings or homes for services or celebrations until the stay-at-home order is lifted." ⁽¹⁾

The church had moved its worship service from its building to Walmart after police officers interrupted to disperse the congregation. Law Enforcement Today (LET) reported, "If people can safely gather at a Walmart to worship, then it is absurd to suggest that the actual house of worship is any more dangerous." ⁽²⁾

"This just further affirms the bias that is taking place across the country in the name of 'safety' and 'quarantine.' Liquor stores and marijuana shops were deemed essential, but not houses of worship." ⁽³⁾

A group of 500 Evangelical Christians held a prayer & praise service in the lobby of a 1,600-person capacity Las Vegas casino on Aug. 6, since Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak restricted services in houses of worship to 50 people but allowed casinos to operate at 50% capacity. Retail stores and restaurants are also allowed to reopen at 50% capacity. "The governor allows hundreds to thousands to assemble in pursuit of financial fortunes but only 50 to gather in pursuit of spiritual ones. That is unconstitutional," said lawyers for the church. ⁽⁴⁾

This casino prayer & praise event came two weeks after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the plea of Calvary Chapel in Nevada to suspend the state-imposed 50-person limit for church gatherings. In a 5-4 decision, justices denied the church's appeal to allow services for up to 90 members, 50% capacity, while fully complying with social-distancing and other rules.

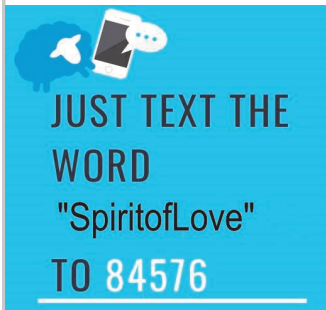
Dissenting Justice Sam Alito wrote, "We have a duty to defend the Constitution, and even a public health emergency does not absolve us of that responsibility." "The Constitution guarantees the free exercise of religion. It says nothing about freedom to play craps or blackjack..." ⁽⁵⁾

(wnd.com, 8/10/20(1); 1cbn.com, 8/7/20(2)(4)(5); lawenforcementtoday.com, 8/8/20(3); thechristianpost.com, 8/8/20;

Be Silent No More!

"Evil preaches tolerance until it is dominant, then it seeks to silence good." – Archbishop Chaput

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!

Calendar Club Winners

Here are the winners from August 16-22, 2020

8/16/2020	583 \$50	Bob Aberle
8/17/2020	385 \$25	Joan & David Marro
8/18/2020	651 \$25	Dolores & Ken Fensterer
8/19/2020	256 \$25	Linda Carlino
8/20/2020	576 \$25	Don & Judy Persia
8/21/2020	281 \$25	St. Thomas More Youth Group—Gift of Betty Vrondis
8/22/2020	887 \$25	Virginia Zablocki

Congratulations

We have been advised by Chaminade High School and Kellenberg Memorial High School that the following students from our parish graduated as seniors:

Chaminade:

Connor P. Heslin

Kellenberg Memorial High School:

Michael Roy Popp

We are proud of you on completing the school year successfully.

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	



Pre- Cana couples celebrate the completion of our STM Pre-Cana program along with their parents, and our parish family at the Saturday 5:00 pm Mass.



*Congratulations and best wishes to **Rose Recce** who led us in joyful song at the 5:00 Mass for the last time before heading off to the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam.*

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2020

as of August 18, 2020

Our Parish Goal	\$70,400.00
Pledges to date	\$32,837.00
<i>Percentage of Goal</i>	<i>46.64%</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.comStThomasMoreHauppauge/>

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.

- Mass Times -

Saturdays

5 pm in the church
(live streamed as well)

Sundays

9:30 am parking lot

12 pm in the church

NL
DESIGNS

1967 • CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 2017
**ST. THOMAS
MORE**
CATHOLIC CHURCH
United in the love of Christ

*
Weather permitting.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jaclyn Aloï, ASB, Brian B, Louise Beltrani, Pamela Brosnan, Erin Burke, Kathy Capuano, Paul Connors, Veronica Corvasce, Ginny Desierio, Diane DiChristina, Walt Drechsler Jr., Sr. Alexius Fitzgerald, Michael Fiorentino, Rosemarie Flore, Marilyn Gast, Gail, Laurie Holmes, Richard Kane, Kevin Kenney, Phyllis Markowitz, 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, Howard Spegman, 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

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

Lydia Nunes, Robert Gennari, 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

Bread

Pasta

Spaghetti

Tomato Sauce

Tuna

Macaroni & Cheese

Canned Fruit**

Peanut Butter (smaller jars)**

Rice**

Canned Vegetables**

Apple Juice**

Coffee (1 pound cans/bags)

Tea Bags

Mustard/Ketchup

Soup (18-22 oz)

Soup

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

Just a gentle reminder—we are collecting Target and Walmart gift cards for our neighbors to use for school supplies.

Your generosity is always greatly appreciated!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Like Peter in today's Gospel, we can find that when we open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to experience Jesus' presence in our daily lives, God reveals Himself to us.

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

**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 min-
istry:

- Altar Server Hospitality
- Usher Greeter
- RCIA Liturgy with Children
- Lector Eucharistic Minister
- Consolation Minister Landscaping/
Planting
- Rosary Altar Society Pre-Cana
- Caring for Altar Plants FOCCUS

- Adult Lending Library Banner Committee

Name::

Address:

Phone:

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)*

*Please return to the Rectory for further pro-
cessing.*

St Thomas More

Religious Education News

Religious Education

We are in the process of registering new and returning students in Religious Education. If you have or know of a child in grades 1-8 who would like to be enrolled in the Religious Education Program this year, please contact us at 631 234-0397 or reled@stmli.org and we will be glad to assist you.

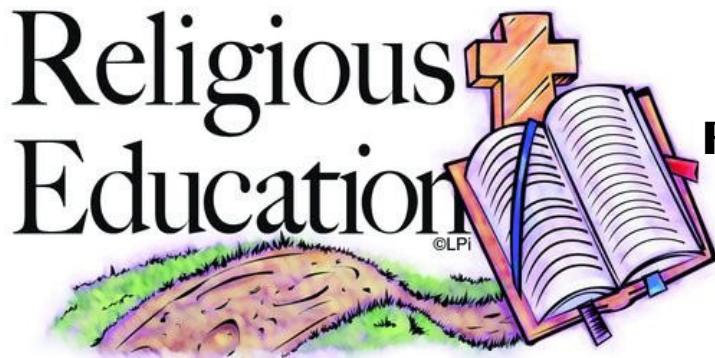
Because of the pandemic Religious Education will look different this year. Beginning the second week of September small classes will meet outside. Catechists and children will wear masks and maintain the correct social distance. We will continue outdoor classes as long as it is safe to do so and the weather permits. After that we will switch to online learning.



We anticipate that we will be able to celebrate First Communions and Confirmation later next spring or early summer as we did this past July when we celebrated the sacraments in smaller groups following Diocesan guidelines.

Please pray for the children, their families and catechists as they continue on their journey of faith.





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>



The Office of FAITH FORMATION DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Upcoming Workshop

Basic Virtual Religious Studies Course (2020)

Via Zoom

New Testament

August 17 – August 20, 2020

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Church

August 24 – August 27, 2020

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Christology

August 31 – September 3, 2020

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers

Via Zoom

Evening

Oct 12, 19, 26; Nov 2, and 9

7:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Mornings

Oct 13, 20, 27; Nov 3, and 10

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For more information, workshops, or to register online,
please visit drvc-faith.org/event