



Catholic Church Community of
St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

August 30, 2020

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Matthew 16:25

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 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

Saturday, August 29

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Robert Algar *by Fintan & Margaret
 Stapleton*

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

9:30am Rose Borowski *by Paul, Kathy & Amanda
 Borowski;*

Johnathon & Maribel Calcagni—15 year
 Wedding Anniversary

12:00pm Barbara Innes *by Bob & Evelyn McMahon,*
 Maria Krol *by Michele Brosnan;*
 Jean Noschese *by The Friendship Circle*

Monday, August 31

9am Darryl John *by Joan Oscar & Merle John*

Tuesday, September 1

9am Elizabeth & Charles Padala *by Betty
 Vrondis*

Wednesday, September 2

9am Edward J. Thompson *by the Recce family*

Thursday, September 3—St. Gregory the Great

9am Jean Noschese *by Marcia & John Gaudet*

Friday, September 4—First Friday

9am People of the Parish

Saturday, September 5—St. Teresa of Calcutta— First Saturday

9am People of the Parish

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Nicholas G. Stathakis *by Kathleen Rudy*

Sunday, September 6—Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30am Joseph Hauk *by his wife & family*

12:00pm Robert Cusick *by Elizabeth Kane;*
 Mae Devine *by St. Thomas More Cleaning
 Teams*

Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

September 6, 2020
 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Ezekiel 33: 7-9
 Psalm: 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
 Romans 13: 8-10
 Matthew 18: 15-20

A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew:

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.

Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

The president of the largest banking cooperation in the world was in the hospital. One of the vice presidents came to visit him with this message. "I bring you the good wishes of your Board of Directors that you should be restored to health and live to be a hundred years old. That's an official resolution passed by a majority of fifteen to six with two abstentions." Majority has nothing do with one's bodily health or a decision to live. When a member of the body suffers the whole body suffers. Every one of us is so wholesome in our personality that nothing can make us yield unless we yield ourselves.

Today's Gospel is the continuation of last week's. Last Sunday Jesus praised Peter for having been revealed by God to proclaim Jesus' identity as the Messiah. But this week Jesus is reprimanding Peter for not understanding Jesus' foretelling His death on the Cross. Why? Because Peter was ready to accept God's revelation of Jesus as the Messiah in His powerful preaching and miracles, but he was not ready to accept God's revelation how that Messiah has to die on the cross with lots of suffering.

Peter persuaded Jesus not to die on the Cross. But Jesus did not yield to Peter's pleas; He is very much focused in his vocation to die on the cross as the Suffering Servant.. Adding to that Jesus invites all His followers to be suffering servants like Him. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." As Jesus focused to fulfill God's will, He wants His disciples to do God's will, come what may. If we are focused like Jesus, none can make us yield to anything but God's will.

Believing in God's revelation is to live God's will both in good times and in bad. It is God's will that gives the power to live, not an external situation. When one accepts to live God's revelation God does not abandon the person without help. God's revelation always comes with God's wonderful grace to help, lead and be with that person to accomplish God's will. Let us pray for God's light to accept and understand His revelation. Let God help us to persevere in God's will.

From this Monday 31st of August the Parish Rectory Office and the Religious Education Offices will resume their regular office hours. The Rectory office will be open Monday to Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and the Religious Education Office Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please refer to the Religious Education page in this bulletin for more news about Religious Education classes and Registering children for Religious Formation

With love and prayers,

Fr. Antony



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

Do Children Have First Amendment Rights in Public School? *Part 1*

Soon children in grades K-12 will return to school either in-person or remotely, and the misunderstanding about prayer in public schools will return also. Is it legal for your child to pray in public school?

Yes! The Supreme Court never outlawed student prayer in public schools. Multiple court decisions and Dept. of Education regulations confirm that students are free to pray alone or in groups, as long as such prayers are not disruptive and take place during non-instructional time. During those times, students may also read their Bible or other scriptures, say grace before meals, study religious materials with fellow students and meet in after school religious based clubs.

So - why and how did this exercise of First Amendment Freedom of Religion become controversial? Before the 1960s there was little resistance to teaching religious principles, Bible readings, or prayer in school - in fact, it was the norm. The landmark case, Engel v. Vitale, brought before the Supreme Court in 1962, asserted that any state mandated prayer offended the Constitution's prohibition against an establishment of religion and violated "separation of church and state." The majority opinion resulted in an end to the practice of students voluntarily reciting a school-composed, non-denominational prayer such as: "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers and our country. Amen." ⁽¹⁾

However, invoking the phrase "separation of church and state" to silence religious expression is to perpetuate the lie that this phrase is in the Constitution - it is not! In fact, it is derived from President Thomas Jefferson's letter in 1802 to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut to reassure them that their religious freedoms were safe from government interference and protected by the First Amendment.

To clarify students' rights, in 1995, President Bill Clinton said, "The First Amendment does not require students to leave their religion at the schoolhouse door." ⁽²⁾ He then instructed the Dept. of Education to write guidelines for religious expression in school.

On Jan.10, 2020, President Trump issued updated guidelines for religious expression in public schools and added a reporting mechanism for students experiencing denial of

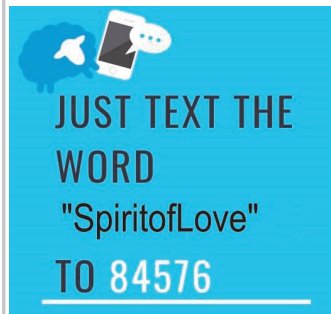
their religious expression. ⁽³⁾

AmericanMinute.com(1)(2); thought.com, 3/29/19); npr.org, 1/16/20; religious tolerance.org); www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/religionandschools/prayer_guidance.html (3)

Silent No More!

Encourage your school district to follow the many state legislatures which encourage or require all public schools to display our nation's motto, "**In God We Trust.**"

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 them to share your values. **Call** Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to be connected to any Representative or Senator's office. **Email:** Find Representative's email at www.house.gov Find Senator's email at www.senate.gov



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**

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bernstein	Dylan Kowalski
Jessie Bernstein	Thomas LaFemina
Joseph Blaugrund	Alex Lombardi
Anthony Broncatello	Andrew Lombardi
John Burk	Lt. Clint Lorance
Collin Busto	Scott Lovelock
David Chester	Andrew Lynch
John Chester	Troy A. Maida,
Nicholas Chester	William Maley
Theresa Chester	Thomas Migliara
Collin J. Crean	Tim Morris
Eddie Cullum	Ryan Murphy
Eric Cullum	John Nachtman
Adam Cussen	Kaitlyn Nachtman
David Cussen	Thomas Nichols
Capt. Sean Michael Dolan	Adam Papaizai
P. J. Erskin	Michael Poist
Timothy Fallon	Michael Polanski
Major Michael Fantauzzi	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	
Michael Knipper	

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
2020**

as of August 18, 2020

Our Parish Goal	\$70,400.00
Pledges to date	\$32,837.00
Percentage of Goal	46.64%

Courtesy Announcements:

St. Mary's East Islip—The pandemic of 2020 resulted in a great many challenges; most especially, the unexpected death of a loved one. We are offering a special focus support group for adults who have endured this specific loss and are struggling to rebuild their lives within the current societal framework.

There will also be a second adult bereavement support group offered not related to COVID-19 for anyone who has lost a loved one.

Both groups will begin on Thursday, September 17th at 7pm. There is no cost to attend the groups, but pre-registration is required.

In order to participate in this program, the death must have occurred prior to June 17th, 2020.

If interested, please call (631) 581-4266, x-125.

Please note that all participants must wear a mask while in the group and we will be as socially distanced as possible.

Good Shepherd Hospice Bereavement Services are opened to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death at no charge.

Upcoming Bereavement Support Groups, led by a Bereavement Specialist, include:

Virtual Spousal/Partner Loss Bereavement Support Group

September 15 thru November 3 / 5:00PM-6:30PM

Registration Required: Roger Sullivan, LCSW @ (631) 465-6332 / roger.sullivan@chsli.org

Virtual Bereavement Support Group for COVID Related Loss

September 15 thru November 3 / 6:45PM-8:00PM

Registration Required: Roger Sullivan, LCSW @ (631) 465-6332 / roger.sullivan@chsli.org

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://stmlyouth.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.

Congratulations!

Calendar Club Winners

Here are the winners from August 23-29, 2020

8/23/2020	890 \$50	Joan & David Marro
8/24/2020	830 \$25	Marti & John White
8/25/2020	694 \$25	Brian & Judy O'Connor
8/26/2020	656 \$25	Marilyn Manzella
8/27/2020	468 \$25	Joseph Beltrani
8/28/2020	810 \$25	Jerry & Willy Ferrara
8/29/2020	657 \$25	Timothy Vigneaux

- 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, Sharon Mills, Melissa Mock, 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

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>.

**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)

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

*Thank you to everyone who contributed to our school supply drive.
Your generosity made it possible for us to help more than 20 families
And over 55 children with supplies for the new school year!*

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today, we hear Jesus say to us, "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." The challenge is to let go so God can lead us.

Your generosity in giving up some of your comforts, and donating to our conference, is what allows us to keep on assisting our neighbors in need.

Thank you for your generosity!

The parish is grateful for Andrew Vermillion who, along with his Scout friends, is paving the path in St. Theresa's Garden as his Eagle Scout project...God bless their work...



**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.*

Adoration

"Faith Amidst
the Unexpected"

Tuesday, September 1st
at 7:00 pm

Please join us and the Young
Professionals for a night of
meditation, music, and prayer.



St. Thomas More Parish
A Catholic Church Community in Hauppauge, NY
Sharing The Spirit Of Love



2020 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Labor Day is an opportunity to take stock of the way's workers are honored and respected. As Pope Francis pointed out, *"Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. . . It gives one the ability to maintain oneself, one's family, to contribute to the growth of one's own nation."*



For many people today, especially the poor, or those who may be unemployed or underemployed, the struggle to support their families is a daily battle. Please consider supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal which supports the programs and services that assist families and individuals struggling in our communities.

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT TO THE 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal! Every Gift Makes a Difference in the Lives of Others.

Parish: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

EMAIL: _____

Pledge	\$ _____
Down Payment	\$ _____
Balance	\$ _____

Catholic Ministries Appeal, Diocese of Rockville Centre, P.O. Box 4000, Rockville Centre, New York 11571

To make a donation, you can also visit
<https://www.drvc.org/CMA>
or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

THANK YOU!

St Thomas More

Religious Education News

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.



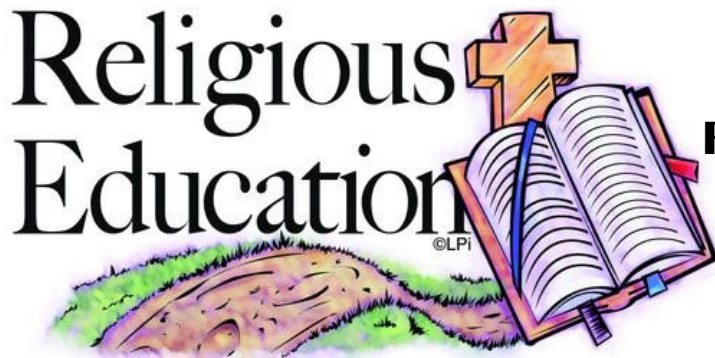
We anticipate that we will be able to celebrate First Communions and Confirmation later next spring or early summer as we did this past July when we celebrated the sacraments in smaller groups following Diocesan guidelines.

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



Confirmation 2020





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>