



Catholic Church Community of  
**St. Thomas More**  
115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent



**SECOND SUNDAY**  
OF  
*Advent*

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**

|                  |                     |                  |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Rectory</b>   | <b>Religious Ed</b> | <b>Outreach</b>  |
| 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 @

[StThomasMore29.flocknote.com](https://StThomasMore29.flocknote.com)

## ***Masses for this coming week***

December 6, 2020  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11  
Psalm: 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14  
2 Peter 3:8-14  
Mark 1: 1-8

### **Saturday, December 5**

#### ***(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)***

5pm Rose Marie Amoruso *by the Recce family*;  
John Booth *by the Lovell family*;  
Peter Romano *by Marsha Augustyn*

### **Sunday, December 6—Second Sunday of Advent**

9:30am Nereida Roskos *by the Sandbichler family*

12:00pm Lisa Codispoti *by Betty Ann & Joe  
Codispoti*;

Rita Trapani *by the Itzla family*

### **Monday, December 7—St. Ambrose**

9am Leovigilda Marinas *by Grace Aldaba*

7pm Diane Diot *by Monica Kanischak*

### **Tuesday, December 8—The Immaculate**

#### **Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9am Charles Struzinski *by Eunice Struzinski*

7pm William Milligan *by Marcella & Geppie  
De Simone*

### **Wednesday, December 9—St. Juan Diego**

#### **Cuauhtlatotzin**

9am Mrs. Alberici *by Elena & Paul McGuinness*

### **Thursday, December 10**

9am Peter Romano *by Patty & Joe Citro*

### **Friday, December 11—St. Damasus**

9am Regina Cosenza *by Andrew & Chris Paino*

### **Saturday, December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe**

9am Edwin Dowse *by Maria Rotolico*

#### ***(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)***

5pm Robert Dacey *by Fintan & Margaret  
Stapleton*

***After 5pm Mass —Christmas Tree Lighting. No  
social time with Santa***

### **Sunday, December 13—Third Sunday of Advent**

9:30am Patricia Hatta *by Lynn Hatta & Susan  
Mannino*

12:00pm John Skrabonja *by Ratka & Joe Santic*

## ***Growing through the Sunday Scriptures***

December 13, 2020  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 61: 1-2A, 10-11  
Psalm: Luke: 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

A reading from the Gospel of John:

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John.

When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him,

“Who are you?”

He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted,

“I am not the Christ.”

So they asked him,

“What are you then? Are you Elijah?”

And he said,

“I am not.”

“Are you the Prophet?”

He answered,

“No.”

So they said to him,

“Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?”

He said:

“I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’*” as Isaiah the prophet said.”

Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him,

“Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?”

John answered them,

“I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## ***FR. ANTONY'S LETTER***

Dear Friends,

A young boy was helping his grandfather dig potatoes. After a while the child began to get tired. “Grandpa,” he asked wearily, “what made you bury these things anyway?” If we are not aware that potatoes **grow under the earth, we wonder why they are buried under the earth.**

**The reading of the Second week of Advent** states that precious reality is waiting in our hearts to be dug out. The Lord talks tenderly to our hearts in order to empower our hearts. If only we set time every day to listen (pray) to him, our ears will hear the encouraging news, “Here is your God! Here comes with power, the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him.” Our hearts will begin to experience life without any discrimination and division, “Every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.” (Isaiah 40:1-11)

**In the Gospel John the Baptist explains** how we have inner power to turn to Jesus who will awaken the Holy Spirit in us. It is our choice either to be unaware and bury this power of God, or be conscious and dig it out from within us. Those who dig out will begin to live their life with the power of God. Those who bury it or are not even aware of it, will just go through life in exhaustion and perspiration. The peaceful and powerful time of God, as explained in the first reading, is waiting for us to be unveiled by our inner power.

**Advent is the time when we give ourselves** some quality time to awaken ourselves to this inner power. In Baptism Jesus has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let us allow God’s Spirit to work in us. Let us not get buried in our ignorance or drowsiness. Let us be aware of the divine power we have within us.

**Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemn Feast of the Immaculate Conception** of our Blessed Mother Mary. On this day we praise God for the gift of Mary to be born and live sinless so that she becomes the worthy Mother of God. Also we declare our belief that in our Baptism, you and I are made worthy persons like Mary, to bear and live the presence of Jesus Christ. On Monday at 7:00 pm we will have a vigil Mass. On Tuesday we will have Masses at 9:00 am and at 7:00 pm. Evening mass will be followed by Eucharist Adoration for an hour.

**Christmas-Tree Lighting will be on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00pm Mass.** As we are going through the time of the Pandemic, we are sorry there will not be social time with Santa.

**We thank you all in advance, for sponsoring the Christmas Flowers** in honor or in memory of your family members.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Antony



## ADVENT – Time of Faith

Now we are in the second week of Advent. The second candle of the Advent wreath is lit. “Faith” is the right key to enter our inner spiritual resources in order to welcome and experience the birth of Christ in our hearts and homes. I prepared this reflection on every day’s Mass Readings as a Prayer Tool to empower us spiritually. It may take a minute to read each day’s reflection. Please reflect and pray first thing in the morning before the start of any work. Be conscious of the scripture words through the day. It will empower you the whole day in God’s way.

**Dec. 6 Second Sunday of Advent:** “One mightier than I, is coming after me....

I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1: 7-8) These words of John the Baptist remind us how our Baptism can change our way of preparing for Christmas. Baptism is the moment that ignited God’s fire in our hearts and breathed God’s Spirit into us. Mary’s conception was by the power of the Holy Spirit and gave birth to Jesus (Christmas). If the Holy Spirit of Baptism is alive in our heart, be sure that Christ will be born in your heart and home this Christmas.



**Dec. 7 Monday:** Some men brought a paralyzed man on a stretcher to Jesus . When Jesus saw their faith, He healed the paralytic. The paralytic benefitted from the faith of his friends. The faith of the friends made Jesus heal the paralytic. God is ready to act in favor of anyone on whose behalf we pray, with faith in God. Have faith and please pray especially for someone who is paralyzed or frozen in some state of mind or by some hurt. When Jesus sees your faith He will heal that person.

**Dec. 8 Tuesday, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:**

“Immaculate Conception” means that God gave Mary the grace of being sinless all her life from her Conception, in order for her to be the Mother of God. St. Paul reminds us the plan of God to bless us in Christ. Yes this plan of God has chosen us in Christ, before the foundation of the world, that we may be holy and without blemish before him. (Letter to Ephesians 1:3-6). This promise of God inspires us that we can be the present day pure vessel of God like Mary, both to fill ourselves with God’s presence and to generously share it with the world.





**Dec. 9 Wednesday:** “They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength; they will soar as with eagles’ wings. They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.” These words from today’s first reading (Isaiah 40:30) promise that if God is our life’s source we will never run out of energy and enthusiasm of living. We know that the older we grow, the harder life becomes with increasing responsibilities and with increasing weakness within us. In today’s Gospel Jesus knows our human life that it doesn’t get easier, but He can make us stronger. Jesus

promises, “I will give you rest....you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” (Matthew 11:28-30) When life gives you lemons, Jesus empowers you to make lemonade.

**Dec. 10 Thursday:** “I see my body as an instrument, rather than an ornament.” (Alanis Morissette). As an ornament, the body may enhance our personality. As an instrument our body can empower our action and express its meaning. Today’s first reading invites us to become God’s instruments. As God’s instrument we can realize that all that we do and all that happens in our life is the work of God. As God’s work we become God’s continuing act of creation (Isaiah 41:13-20) If only we allow God to touch the right key at the right time, we, the instrument, will play His heavenly music.



**Dec. 11 Friday:** The person who delights in the Lord, “is like a tree planted near running water, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves never fade. Whatever he does, prospers.” (Psalm 1:2-6) There is a stream of running water in the underground water pipes, like in the river. But the tree planted near the water pipe cannot benefit from the water in any way. Where are we planted? Anything, but God, is like the water pipe. They can supply life only on their terms. God alone is the life giving water running by our side. He voluntarily waters us to be alive with

unfading leaves and fruits in due season. Christmas is the celebration of God coming to us voluntarily. Let us neither insulate ourselves from the running stream nor plant ourselves near insulated water pipes.

**Dec. 12 Saturday: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.** Today we commemorate the five apparitions of Blessed Mother Mary in December 1531 to a Mexican peasant named Juan Diego at a place called the Hill of Tepeyac, near Villa de Guadalupe, in a suburb of Mexico City. Mother Mary compelled the archbishop of Mexico City to build a basilica church by requesting it through the simple peasant Juan Diego. This how God works among us – through simple people and simple means. The birth of the almighty God was in a simple manger through the simple girl Mary the virgin mother from an insignificant village, Nazareth. Life is not what we do but How we cooperate with God, “for nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:26-38).



## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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

## Calendar Club Winners

### Congratulations!

Here are the winners from Nov.29– Dec. 5, 2020

|            |          |                        |
|------------|----------|------------------------|
| 11/29/2020 | 382 \$50 | Karen & Michael Weiner |
| 11/30/2020 | 410 \$25 | Theresa Lund           |
| 12/ 1/2020 | 586 \$25 | Mathew Weiner          |
| 12/ 2/2020 | 970 \$25 | Mary E. Conway         |
| 12/ 3/2020 | 72 \$25  | The Holdorf family     |
| 12/ 4/2020 | 48 \$25  | Sal Napolitano         |
| 12/ 5/2020 | 209 \$25 | Janet Daly             |



Would you like to receive a daily spiritual reflection or updates of what's happening in our Parish? See below or go to [StThomasMore29.flocknote.com](http://StThomasMore29.flocknote.com)



## Religious Education News

One of our second grade classes made up gifts to send to Samaritan's Purse.



## SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection of **November 29**      **\$3,610.00**  
 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:rectory@stmli.org)  
 Mary Ellen Carroll: [mecarroll@optonline.net](mailto:mecarroll@optonline.net)  
 Outreach: [outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)  
 Youth Ministry [youthminister@stmli.org](mailto:youthminister@stmli.org)  
 Altar Servers Ministry: [altarservers@stmli.org](mailto:altarservers@stmli.org)  
 Personal Prayer [SpiritualOrientations.com](http://SpiritualOrientations.com)  
 To contact a member of the Pastoral Council use the following  
 Barbara & Joe Fratamico at [BJFRAT@optonline.net](mailto:BJFRAT@optonline.net)



## 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 December 14, 2020 at 2:30 pm in Walden Hall.

The book for discussion will be **The Jew Store** by Stella Suberman—Facilitator Marie Bracco.

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.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



The RCIA is a faith journey which leads those seekers to meet Jesus in the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

The seekers will be accompanied on the journey by the community of Saint Thomas More in the spirit of love.

Do you know of a family member or friend who needs to complete one or more of the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation?

Do you know a family member or friend who has been a member of another faith tradition who wants to become a catholic?

To find out more about the faith journey or to join us on the journey please call the rectory at 631-234-5551.



## Focus on Religious Freedom

[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

***"The liberty enjoyed by the people of these States of worshipping Almighty God, agreeable to their consciences, is not only among the choicest of their blessings, but also of their rights."*** -

**George Washington**

### Supreme Court Rules for "free exercise" of Religious Freedom

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Nov. 25, 2020, that NY Gov. Andrew Cuomo's executive order to enforce strict attendance limits on places of worship designated as coronavirus hot spots, violated the First Amendment's "free exercise" clause and actively discriminated against religious institutions. The majority decision ruled in favor of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn and the Jewish congregations of Agudath Israel of America, because the regulations treated the houses of worship more harshly than comparable secular facilities. "The restrictions at issue here, by effectively barring many from attending religious services, strike at the very heart of the First Amendment's guarantee of religious liberty," wrote the majority decision. <sup>(1)</sup>

New York's rules, which the justices found to be "severe" and "inflexible," don't apply to retail stores in the same neighborhoods and in some places there are no attendance caps at all. "Not only is there no evidence that the applicants have contributed to the spread of COVID-19 but there are many other less restrictive rules that could be adopted to minimize the risk to those attending religious services," the Court held. <sup>(2)</sup>

"This is an historic victory," said Rabbi Chaim Zwiebel. "This landmark decision will ensure that religious practices and religious institutions will be protected from government edicts that do not treat religion with the respect demanded by the Constitution." <sup>(3)</sup>

In August, the pastors of two Colorado churches filed a "Lawsuit (that) calls both the federal government and Colorado leaders into account for their violations

of the right to free exercise of religion among other abuses of power, primarily resulting from Gov. Jared Polis' COVID-19 related Executive Orders," said Thomas More Society attorneys. <sup>(4)</sup>

U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Domenico ruled, "The Constitution does not allow the State to tell a congregation how large it can be when comparable secular gatherings are not so limited, or to tell a congregation that its reason for wishing to remove facial coverings is less important than a restaurant's or spa's." <sup>(5)</sup>

(boisestatepublicradio.org, 11/26/20(1); msn.com, 11/26/20(2)(3); denver.cbslocal.com, 10/20/20(4); pjmedia.com, 10/21/20(5); npr.org, 11/26/20; nypost.com, 11/26/20)

***"I think it is appropriate that we pay tribute to this great constitutional principle which is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution: the principle of religious independence, of religious liberty, of religious freedom."***

**- President John F. Kennedy**

## **CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2020**

as of November 24, 2020

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Our Parish Goal    | \$70,400.00 |
| Pledges to date    | \$37,757.00 |
| Percentage of Goal | 53.63%      |

### **Support Our Religious.**

Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous





## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jackie Aloï, Bill Boyrer, Pamela Brosnan, Kathy Capuano, Rosie Casillas, Paul Connors, Veronica Corvasce, Ginny Desiderio, Michael Fiorentino, Richard Fiorentino, Peggy Fleming, Thomas Giglio, John Gilligan, Grace Harold, Catherine Healy, Matthew Inga, Regina Jeskie, Kevin Kenney, Phyllis Markowitz, Jean Marsala Kieffner, Christine Miller, Patricia Miller, Sharon Mills, Rich Nixon, Al Pankus, Robert McGurrin, Melissa Mock, Ellen Murphy, Maura Reddy, Rosalie Rocchio, Janet Rodriguez, Mel Smith, Jerry Smith, John Spadaro, Peggy Stepanek, Jose Talavera, Marie Tripoli, Chase Turano, Andrew J. Valentine, Andrew M. Valentine, Rosalind Warmuth, Diane Weisz, Janet Weil, Julia Westbrook.

*This listing will expire on March 31, 2021.*



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](http://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

Catherine Healy, Mary Ann O’Gara, 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](http://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 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**

***CASH DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!***

***Our sincere gratitude and blessings to all who so generously donated to our Thanksgiving food drive. Whether it was a monetary donation, a gift card, or food, you have touched the hearts of our neighbors in need and brightened their Thanksgiving Day!***

!

***Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone in need of support.***

**Outreach is now open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday**

**10 AM to 2 PM**

**Phone: 631-234-3149**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call your St. Thomas More Conference at 631 648 2760 so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas. Thank you

## CALENDAR CLUB 2021

I/We would like to join St. Thomas More's Calendar Club for 2021.

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

PHONE:( )

EMAIL:

( ) One Number for \$25  
OR

( ) FIVE Numbers for \$100

**(If your return your form & payment by Sunday, December 20, 2020, you will receive a total of SIX numbers for \$100).**

( ) I would like to give Calendar Club numbers as Gifts. I am attaching a separate page indicating the names and addresses of individuals who will receive gifts.

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$**

*(Please return form to Rectory Office or place in Collection Basket).*

### ***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 the Rectory)*

## 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)*

### 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:

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

( ) Adult Lending Library      ( ) Banner Committee

Name::

Address:

Phone:

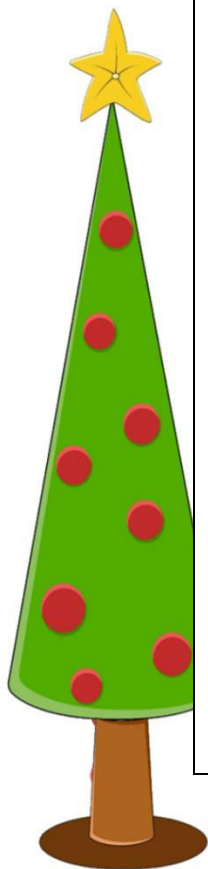
**The St. Thomas More Boy Scout Troop 343 held their  
Annual Christmas Wreath Sale on  
November 28th and 29th after all the Masses.**



**A big Thank-you to the Boy Scouts.**

**What a wonderful way to begin the season of Advent with a wreath sale to prepare for Christmas.**





## St. Thomas More Outreach

### Giving Tree

This year has been filled with many changes and new ways of doing things. Because of the pandemic our Giving Tree, usually found in the Narthex filled with tags for gifts and gift cards, will be virtual this year. Although the way we do things has changed, the needs of our community remain the same. We invite you to help us make Christmas special for those less fortunate by donating gift cards for our families and those who are in need. Walmart and Target gift cards (\$25 and \$50) will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to purchase a toy for a youngster in need, please feel free to do so. If you are not able to go into the stores, cash donations are always welcomed. Our Outreach “elves” will do the shopping for you!

Gift cards/donations can be put in the weekly collection or sent to/dropped off at the Outreach office. Please do not leave gift cards in the Narthex.

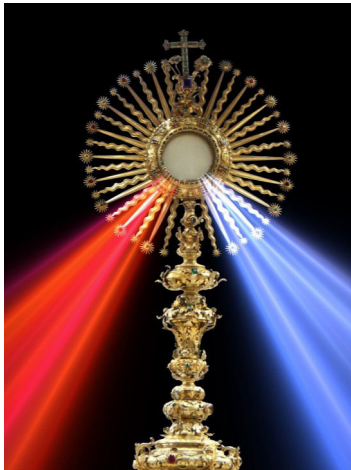
As always, your generosity is a clear reflection of who we are as a parish family! Thank you and God Bless you and your families!

**Please submit all donations by December 13th**

## The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

We will offer three Masses for this feast day:  
7 PM on Monday, December 7 (Vigil), and  
9 AM & 7 PM on Tuesday, December 8.

**Holy Hour: National Night of Prayer for Life**



In conjunction with this feast, we will have a special Adoration and Benediction on Tuesday, December 8, from 8-9 PM in the church, immediately following the 7 PM Mass.

Our parish will be joining with many other parishes not only in our diocese, but across the country in a Holy Hour to focus on the precious gift of life, especially the unborn.

We ask Our Blessed Mother to protect Life and the Family, to renew the Church and establish Peace.

Our Holy Hour will consist of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, chant, contemporary Christian song, recitation of the Rosary, and Benediction.



All are welcome - come spend an hour in quiet reflection and prayer as an Advent gift to yourself.

# - Mass Times -

## **Saturdays**

5:00 pm in the church  
(live streamed)

## **Sundays**

9:30 am parking lot  
(weather permitting)

12:00 pm in the church