



Catholic Church Community of  
**St. Thomas More**

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

December 20, 2020  
 December 25, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)



**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 20, 2020  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Psalm: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29  
Romans: 16:25-27  
Luke: 1:26-38

### **Saturday, December 19**

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

5pm Charles Stepanek *by Elizabeth Ryan*

### **Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:30am Eric Reistetter *by his family*

12:00pm Judith Patchell *by the O'Brien family*

### **Monday, December 21—St. Peter Canisius**

9am Gloria Kreider *by the family*

### **Tuesday, December 22**

9am Robert Mohlenbrook *by Lois Mohlenbrook  
& family*

### **Wednesday, December 23—St. John of Kanty**

9am Deceased members of the Vrondis family  
*by Marybeth & Dave Holdorf*

### **Thursday, December 24**

9am Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

3:30pm Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

5:30pm Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

9pm Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

### **Friday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

9am Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

10:30am Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

12:30pm Christmas Flower Donors and  
Christmas Mass Remembrance

### **Saturday, December 26—St. Stephen**

9am James J. Murphy Sr., *by Joan Murphy &  
family*

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

5pm Dorothy Coppola *by Pat Nicholson*

### **Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:30am Ralph & Ursula Molinaro —60th Wedding  
Anniversary *by the Molinaros*

12:00pm John Buzzanca *by Paul & Rose Marie  
Gorton*

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

December 27, 2020  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
Sirach 3:2-6, 2-14  
Psalm: 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5  
Colossians 3:12-21  
Luke: 2:22-40

### **A reading from the Gospel of Luke:**

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord,

*Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.*

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.” The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted —and you yourself a sword will pierce— so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

Dear Friends,

**A famous writer once sent Christmas cards** containing nothing but twenty five letters of the English alphabet. When some of his friends admitted that they had failed to understand his message, he pointed to the card and said, "Look! No L". Yes the powerful message of Christmas is NOEL. This French word means Christmas, the birth of Jesus and the news of God's coming to us.

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent brings Christmas, NOEL, very close** -- in four days the Eve of Christmas. Because of the Pandemic Virus we are disappointed being unable to celebrate Christmas in the usual way. 2020 Christmas will be strange and unusual. But Christmas in its very nature is the celebration of God who was born among us in an unusual way. The eternal God to be born in finite flesh is unusual. The Almighty God to be a helpless child in a poor maiden's arms is unusual. The creator of the universe to be born in a manger is unusual. The people who waited centuries for His arrival did not recognize or welcome Him is unusual. Christmas is the time of reminding us that life consists of more unusuals than usuals.

**The traditional celebration of Christmas lost the original 'unusual' spiritual reality** of the first Christmas. We added colorful decorations, sumptuous dinners, clean and beautiful crèches, Santa loaded with gifts etc. Amidst all these added traditional elements, the spiritual reality of Jesus's presence and the meaning of Christmas is lost. **Especially at this pandemic time when we cannot have the regular** (traditional) festive expressions, we can live through this festive time in one of the two following ways.

1) we can go depressed at the thought that it is going to be a strange Christmas without the traditional elements. 2) Or we can take this time to experience the Original Christmas which was nothing but unusual. It is still Christmas. Even now, at this difficult time, the Birth of Jesus, the main reason for the celebration of Christmas happens without fail. Though strange, even this year's Christmas can have the same spiritual joy. **This Strange situation may not have the usual way of expressing our Christmas Joy.** But it does not mean that there can be any less joy in celebrating Christmas. This strange occasion can be spiritually handled to draw out from it a special spiritual joy which we lost by the traditional elements of expressing joy. Let us join the Original Christmas, the first Christmas which was the simplest and humblest one with all the spiritual joy, Godly presence and Divine meaning.



**On this positive note: I wish you and your family a MERRY CHRISTMAS.** May Jesus be born in your hearts and homes. May our celebration empower us to go through our strange time with God's guidance and enthusiasm.

**Happy New Year 2021.** May 2021 bring Peace and Prosperity, Health and a Happy Heart to cherish life.

With love and prayers,  
Fr. Antony





**This year we have six masses for Christmas.**

<p><b><u>Christmas Eve</u></b> 3:30 pm in the Parking Lot (if weather permits) or in the Church. 5:30 pm in the Church 9:00 pm in the Church.</p>	<p><b><u>Christmas Day</u></b> 9:00 am in the Church 10:30 am Parking Lot (if weather permits) or in the Church. 12:30 pm in the Church.</p>
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**Masses for New Year**

<p><b><u>Eve of New Year 2021</u></b> 5:00 pm in the Church</p>	<p><b><u>New Year Day</u></b> 9:00 am and 12:00 Noon in the Church.</p>
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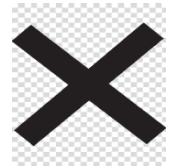
**Few Helpful Instructions**

**Mass in the Church:**

To maintain social distance the seats are marked with a pink check mark **where you can sit.**



To maintain social distance **please don't sit** in the seats marked with a black X mark



**In the Parking Lot:**

The parking lot mass gets filled early and easily. Please follow the instructions of the Knights of Columbus strictly, both while entering and exiting, so that the traffic may flow smoothly, and to avoid any accidents. You can just remain in your car throughout the mass. Please tune to **100.9 FM** to listen to the Mass. Communion will be distributed at the end of the Mass.



I appreciate Your generous contribution which you can drop in the basket at the Exit .

Thank-you for your support.

## ADVENT – Time of PEACE

Now we are in the fourth week of Advent. The Fourth candle of the Advent wreath is lit. “Peace” is the right key to enter our inner spiritual resources. We are very close to the birth of Jesus when ‘Peace on Earth’ and Glory in Heaven’ were promised. It may take a minute to read each day’s reflection. Please reflect and pray as a first thing in the morning before the start of any work. Be conscious of the words of scripture through the day. It will empower you the whole day in God’s way.

**Dec. 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent:** “It is not what you are that is holding you. It is what you think you are not.” Our human worth is so precious to God that God Himself became human. In today’s readings, King David expressed his inability (unworthiness) to build a house for God but God explained to him how God will make his family worthy of an enduring kingdom forever. The Blessed Virgin Mary was expressing her inability to conceive, since she had no relations with a man. But God explained to her that the power of the Most High God would enable her to be worthy of giving birth to the Son of God “for nothing will be impossible for God.” We are not a simple combination of our worth and unworthiness. We become worthy or unworthy of how much we allow God to do worthy things in and through us. Let us know our worth and never settle for less than what God wants to accomplish in us.

**Dec. 21 Monday:** “I want to know all God’s thoughts; all the rest are just details.” (Albert Einstein).

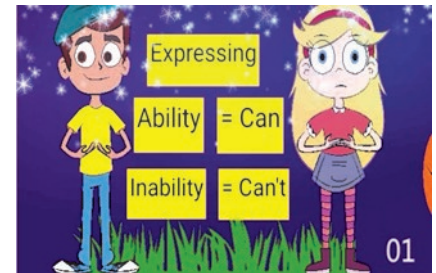


In today’s Gospel two pregnant women, Mary and Elizabeth meet with each other. When Mary walked into Elizabeth’s house, the infant leaped in her womb. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, acknowledged Mary as the Blessed one who believed that what was spoken to her by the Lord would be fulfilled. Mary and Elizabeth were affirmation to each other of God’s revelation and His work in them. When

we come together as friends or families we can become God’s revelation to each other. We can be God’s message and God’s work to each other.

**Dec. 22 Tuesday:** We say... ‘Show me and I’ll trust you.’ God says... ‘Trust me and I’ll show you.’ We trust and plant the seed in order to see the Harvest’ (Psalm 126:6). In today’s Gospel, Mary, pregnant with Jesus, joyfully and gratefully sings, “From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me.” Her pregnancy is like a seed in which Mary trustingly sees the future harvest of all generations praising her as God’s mother. Trust is the basic virtue. Trust sees in a single seed a big tree hidden with lots of fruits.

**Dec. 23 Wednesday:** When Elizabeth conceived a child, the Angel Gabriel made Zachariah, her husband unable to speak because he did not believe God’s words (Luke 1:20). Today’s Gospel narrates the birth of their child. (Luke 1:57-66). He did not name the child after his name Zachariah but ‘John’ meaning “God has been gracious” because now he is to able to know that



purely by God's grace he and his wife became parents of a child in their advanced age. It is God's gracious great plan for this child to become John the Baptist and to herald and baptize God's son Jesus. We are filled with God's grace in our Baptism. "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply." (Hudson Taylor)

**Dec. 24 Thursday:** At the Angel's Command when he became speechless from his child's conception to birth, he must have reflected very much on how God



*Christmas  
Eve*

works. Today's Gospel narrates that Zachariah got his speech back and sang a song. His whole song describes that his child, John would announce the coming of God's gracious time upon his people, "In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us." What John announced actually came true in Jesus. Today we celebrate the Eve of Christmas, the Birth of Jesus, as one of us, to be with us Emmanuel God. Let us prepare our hearts and homes in faith to experience the tender compassion of our God. "No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us." (First letter of John 4:12)

**Dec. 25 Christmas 2020** is the unique occasion to allow the birth of Jesus in our hearts and homes to



inspire the inner power and vision to still live through difficult times in joy and peace. Let us remember what God did to Moses when he led the people free from Pharaoh, Their path was blocked by the Red Sea before them while they were pursued by Pharaoh's army from behind. God did not remove the Red Sea but made them walk through it. Now this Christmas brings this light and strength of Jesus to walk through all that hinders in our life's journey.

On this positive note:

I wish you and your family a  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

May Jesus be born in your hearts and homes.

May our celebration empower us  
to go through our 'Red Sea'

with God's guidance and enthusiasm.

Happy New Year 2021. May 2021 bring Peace and Prosperity, Health  
and a Happy Heart to cherish life.

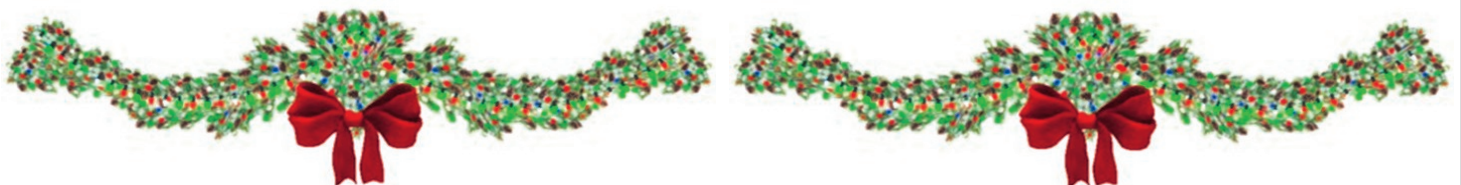
I welcome you personally to celebrate Christmas with our Parish Family of St. Thomas More.



**Phil 4:19**



God shall  
supply all  
your  
need...



**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**

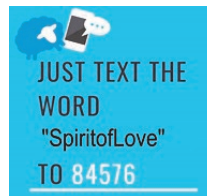
**Congratulations!**

*Here are the winners from Dec. 13—19, 2020*

12/13/2020	546	\$50	Terry Toal
12/14/2020	144	\$25	Clara & Tom Datre
12/15/2020	640	\$25	Helen Barbarito & Peter Stoufer
12/16/2020	558	\$25	Dave Holdorf
12/17/2020	635	\$25	Andy & Kathy Turano
12/18/2020	644	\$25	Sharon Mills
12/19/2020	922	\$25	Al Pankus



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**



**2020 CONTRIBUTION REQUEST**

**I/we would like a record of our 2020 contributions to St. Thomas More:**

**NAME(s)**

**ADDRESS:**

**PHONE:**

**E-mail:**

*Please return to the Rectory for processing.*



## ***SUPPORT COLLECTION***

Collection of **December 13**      **\$3,771.00**  
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
- stmreligioused
- 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 January 11, 2021 at 2:30 pm in Walden Hall.

The book for discussion will be **The Engagements** by J. Courtney Sullivan—  
Facilitator Barbara Trimarco.

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.



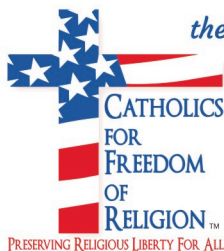


### Focus on Religious Freedom

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



*In every community, home and heart  
the Christ Child is welcomed, freely, openly and joyfully.*



*Wishing a blessed and joyous Christmas from  
Catholics for Freedom of Religion*

*"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us..." Luke 1:7*

## **CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2020**

as of December 15, 2020

Our Parish Goal	\$70,400.00
Pledges to date	\$38,177.00
<i>Percentage of Goal</i>	54.23%



## ***Congratulations***

The following students of our parish received Honor Roll certificates or the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year at St. Anthony's High School.

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Caleb Aurelien    | Olivia Bento     |
| Nicholas Carrieri | Sophia Carrieri  |
| Nicole DeCanio    | Vincent Dentrone |
| Matthew Ficco     | Andrea Haggerty  |
| Lauren Heberer    | John Lynch       |
| William Mitrus    | Gabriella Niola  |
| Emma O'Brien      | Thomas Popp      |



## 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, Tony Hollins, Matthew Inga, Regina Jeskie, Kevin Kenney, Ann Mandel, Phyllis Markowitz, Jean Marsala Kieffner, Christine Miller, Patricia Miller, Sharon Mills, Rich Nixon, Bernice Noeker, Al Pankus, Robert McGurrian, Melissa Mock, Ellen Murphy, Maura Reddy, Rosalie Rocchio, Janet Rodriguez, Teagan Elizabeth Silverman (4 yrs.) Mel Smith, Jerry Smith, John Spadaro, Peggy Stepanek, Jose Talavera, Marie Tripoli, Chase Turano, Andrew J. Valentine, Andrew M. Valentine, Jerry Walker, Rosalind Warmuth, Diane Weisz, Janet Weil, Julia Westbrook, Dawn Zabbia.

*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

Rocco Masone, Chie Petti, 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 Outreach Office. Whether it is a monetary donation, a gift card, or food, you have touched the hearts of our neighbors in need !***

***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**

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened?

Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest.

Your gift to our conference of SVdP brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting and deep joy of Christmas.

Thank you and Merry Christmas

**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 ad-  
dresses 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 Commit-  
tee

Name::

Address:

Phone:

## St. Thomas More Employment Services

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Aides at Home:** PCAs and HHAs. P/T and F/T. Call **516-641-2273**

**Altice (Optimum/Cablevision)** - Many positions available. Go to: [www.alticeusacareers.com](http://www.alticeusacareers.com)

**Catholic Charities of Long Island:**—many F/T and P/T positions available. Go to: [www.catholiccharities.cc/careers](http://www.catholiccharities.cc/careers).

**Catholic Health Services:** Many positions available at local hospitals and medical practices: health professionals and non-health care positions. Go to: <https://jobs.chsli.org/>

**Geico Insurance**—Service and sales positions available. Go to: <https://careers.geico.com/us/en>

**Nassau County:** Many P/T and F/T positions available. Go to [www.nassaucountyny.gov/3341/Employment](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/3341/Employment)

**Suffolk County:** Many P/T and F/T positions available. Go to: [www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment](http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment)

**Panera**--Positions available. Go to: <https://careers.panerabread.com/global/en/search-results>

**Suffolk Transportation Services:** Drivers, Driver Assistants and Mechanic jobs available. Go to: <http://applynow.suffolkbus.com/jobs>

**7-Eleven** Local positions available. Go to: <https://careers.7-eleven.com/careers/home>.

**ShopRite:** Hauppauge and other Long Island positions available. Go to: <https://shop.shoprite.com/careers>

**Stop & Shop:** Long Island positions available. Go to: <https://stopandshop.com/pages/careers>

**Developmental Disabilities Institute:** Local jobs available. Go to: <https://www.ddiny.org/> or call Mary Ann Stein

**Brookhaven Laboratories:** Many positions available. Go to: <https://jobs.bnl.gov/>

**Costco:** Local positions available. Go to: <https://www.costco.com/job-opportunities.html>

**BJ's:** Local positions available. Go to <https://careers.bjs.com/>

**Northwell Health:** Many health and non-health care positions available. Go to: <https://jobs.northwell.edu/>

**Tri-County Nursing Services:** Care Manager positions available on Long Island. Go to: <https://www.tricountycare.org/careers/>

**Ideal Home Care:** PCA and HHA positions available. Go to: <https://www.idealhcs.com/employment>

**Kohls:** Many seasonal positions available on Long Island . Go to: <https://careers.kohls.com/>

**Lowes:** Positions available. Go to: <https://corporate.lowes.com/careers/search-apply>

**Target:** Long Island positions available. Go to: <https://jobs.target.com/>

**Home Depot:** Local positions available. Go to: <https://careers.homedepot.com/>

**Stony Brook Medical Center:** Multiple health and non-health job opportunities available. Go to: <https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/careers>

**Long Island Community Hospital (Patchogue):** Multiple positions available. Go to: <https://licommunityhospital.org/careers/>

**CVS Health:** Many local positions available. Go to: <https://jobs.cvshealth.com/>

**United States Postal Service (USPS):** Many career opportunities available. Go to: [www.usps.com/careers](http://www.usps.com/careers)

If your business or your employer would like to be included in the available job postings that we will be listing please send an email to John White at: [jmwhite@optonline.net](mailto:jmwhite@optonline.net)

Please include the position title, the location of the job, and contact information (either yours or the employer's).



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2020

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

When he was elected as a Successor of St. Peter on March 13, 2013, our Holy Father chose the name *Francis*. It was a weighty decision with a prophetic message. Especially now, seven years later and with the publication of his latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* from the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi on October 3, 2020, the significance of the choice is clear: Pope Francis connects his papacy to St. Francis.

Through the ministry of our Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi is close to the Church in these times. Therefore, as we draw near to Bethlehem at the end of this difficult year, I wish to recall two points Pope Francis highlights from the life of St. Francis. One will help us celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord; the other indicates a grace for which to pray during the holy season.

First, in his 2019 Apostolic Letter *Admirabile Signum: On the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene*, Pope Francis emphasizes St. Francis of Assisi's foundational role in our celebration of Christmas. The Holy Father recalls the origins of the crèche and the first nativity scene inspired by the holy friar in 1223, by which the saint sought "to bring to life the memory of that babe born in Bethlehem." Importantly, the remembrance of Christ's birth that St. Francis desired to convey was brought alive in Greccio, a small village in Italy, not by statues but by people from the surrounding towns and countryside. Together with St. Francis, his friars, an ox and a donkey, they gathered at a cave to behold a manger full of hay over which the Eucharist was celebrated. That Christmas night, almost 800 years ago, Pope Francis reminds us, "the nativity scene was enacted and experienced by all who were present." That night, there was "no distance between the original event and those sharing in its mystery." (2) Encountering Christ, there was simply joy and hope.

This Christmas, in our world laden with the Crosses of COVID-19, political and economic turmoil, racism, financial hardship, and so many other societal ills and challenges – challenges that impact us on Long Island – let us remember this lesson from Greccio: Christmas is an event to be lived. It demands our participation. Like the women and men who embodied that first crèche, we must be present to Christ who is born for us. We must behold and receive Him.

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
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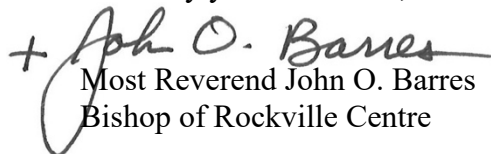
Second, in *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis shows St. Francis as an icon of Christocentric-listening. With great humility and charity, the saint reverently listened to others. He was present to the various voices in his life – the voice of God, the voice of his neighbor, the voice of the poor, the voice of the sick, the voice of nature – and by truly hearing them, he was an instrument of peace, healing, and understanding. How different it can be for us! The Holy Father says well what we know: “Today’s world is largely a deaf world...At times, the frantic pace of the modern world prevents us from listening attentively to what another person is saying.” Aware of this fact, the Pope encourages us, in the midst of our hectic and polarized world, to be like St. Francis and “not lose our ability to listen.” (48)

This Christmas, when we approach the crib, let us ask for the grace to be attentive listeners. Let us ask for the grace to be like St. Francis, so that we may hear the voice of God and the voice of our neighbor and respond with the radical charity he exhibited.<sup>1</sup>

Like Pope Francis, may we be moved by the example of St. Francis, and may St. Francis of Assisi’s love for the Mystery of the Nativity, his ecstatic mysticism, his love for the poor, and his spirit of universal fraternity animate our celebration of Christmas this year.

May God bless you and your families this Christmas.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ John O. Barres  
Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Bishop John O. Barres October 8, 2020 Statement, “The Compelling Figure of St. Francis of Assisi in the Pontificate of Pope Francis and his New Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti*.”