

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

December 12, 2021

Third 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

RectoryReligious EdOutreach631-234-5551631-234-0397631-234-3149FAX 631-234-6412FAX 631-234-1199FAX 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

December 12, 2021 Third Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3: 14-18a Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6 Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 10-18

Saturday, December 11

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Elaine Vazquez by Walter & Terry Happe

Sunday, December 12—Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am Mildred Logan by Deborah De Santis

9:30am Special Anniversary Intentions of Jillian and Darren Harsch *by Mary Scorsese*

11:30am Elaine Moccia by Marie Utter

Monday, December 13—St. Lucy

9am Peter Marrone by Mr. & Mrs. Richard

Buynak

Tuesday, December 14—St. John of the Cross

9am Priscilla McAllister & Gary Pazolt by

Ed McAllister & family

Wednesday, December 15

9am Scott E. Smith by Donna & Sid Smith

Thursday, December 16

9 am Nicholas Malin by Judy Coyle

Friday, December 17

9am Valerie Fahey (Healing) by Leslie & Jimmy

Woodard

Saturday, December 18

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5pm Rob Mohlenbrok by Lois Mohlenbrok &

family

Sunday, December 19—Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am Conrad Vogel by Amy, Richie & Brendan

Hughes

9:30am George & Geraldine Heller by Pat & Frank

Lewis

11:30am Eric Reistetter by the family

Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent Micah 5: 1-4a Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:

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

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

Focus Questions:

- 1. What brings you the most joy during the Advent season?
- 2. How much time do you spend in quiet prayer?
- 3. What part of the story of Mary and Elizabeth speaks to you?

Family and children's question

Mary went to help her cousin, Elizabeth. Talk about the cousins you love who helped you or you helped.



FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends.

Mr. Bartello was the main speaker of the event. His friend introduced him to the audience. "There isn't anything that I would not do for Mr. Bartello, and there isn't anything he would not do for me. That is why we have gone through life not doing anything for each other."

In today's Gospel, "What should we DO?" is the question addressed to John the Baptist by the crowd. He instructed them that they should not only be the hearers of his message but be the doers as well.. Their repentance must be seen in action. Those who have must share with those have not. Tax collectors must not collect more than what is due. Soldiers must practice justice not extortion. In short everyone is called to live their conversion not merely in thoughts but in action. Conversion is not merely a different way of thinking or being conscious of a higher standard of living,,, but a definite act of mercy and justice.

The Third week of Advent is called 'GAUDETE' (REJOICE) Sunday. To highlight the sentiment of joy, we will light the rose candle. The message of this Sunday is that there is JOY in waiting for the Lord. Mother Teresa says, "Joy is not merely a matter of temperament. Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love."

We wait with prayer that the birth of Jesus may happen in our hearts and homes. Waiting with prayer means to be ever conscious of the truth that God can be in us. Our waiting will not disappoint because He came in the past as Emmanuel (= God with us); thus he would definitely come now to be with those who wait for him. This affirmation of faith in His coming strengthens us in our waiting for Jesus. His coming to us shows how much God loves us, to be with us. Thus this Sunday of JOY makes us prayerfully conscious of His coming. Let us rejoice and joyfully welcome Jesus.

Please pray two 'Hail Mary' every day until Christmas; one for your family and the other for the parish family especially for those who would join us at the masses on Christmas Eve and Day. May the blessings of Christmas touch all our families in a special way with Christ's joy and peace. It is time to decorate our homes with the Crèche and all the figurines, except the figurine of Baby



Jesus. On the evening of December 24th when the family gathers around to open the Christmas gifts, the statue of Baby Jesus can be placed and the family can pray the following prayer for Christmas Blessings.

God our Father, you loved us so much. You sent us your only son, Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to save us and lead us back to you. We pray that this image of Jesus be a sign of your presence

and love in our homes. Good Father, give your blessing to family and friends

who gather with us this Christmas.

Open our hearts, that we might receive Jesus in joy, do always what he asks of us and see him in those who need our love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus your beloved Son, who lives with us forever and ever. Amen.

With love and prayers, Fr. Antony



Rectory Phone: 631-234-5551

Pastor

Rev. Antony Asir ext. 14

Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico Deacon Edward R. Vigneaux Deacon Robert D. Weisz

Rectory Staff

Linda Carlino ext. 11
Celine D'Souza ext. 10
Theresa Recce ext. 18

Religious Education—631-234-0397

Coordinator

Mary Ellen Carroll ext. 26

Religious Education Staff

Joanne Anelli ext. 21 Linda Ronning ext. 25

SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL

Websites

www.stmli.org

https://stmyouth.wixsite.com/stmyouthhauppauge

Facebook

https://

ww.facebook.comStThomasMoreHauppauge/

Instagram stm church

stmreligioused

stm yg

Email

Rectory: rectory@stmli.org

Mary Ellen Carroll: mecarroll@optonline.net
Outreach: outreach@stmli.org
Youth Ministry youthgroup@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





Would you like to receive a daily spiritual reflection or updates of what's happening in our Parish?

See above or go to StThomasMore29.flocknote.com



Christmas is coming! Christmas is coming!

It's that time of year again when the weather turns cold and thoughts drift toward Christmas

The stores certainly are ready, our homes are getting decorated, the children are preparing their wish lists for Santa and the church is getting ready too!

We are planning our music for the Christmas masses and we welcome and invite all children 3rd grade through high school to become part of our celebration.

We will have only 3 rehearsals from 11am to 12noon on Dec. 4, 11 & 18. To become part of our choir please call Emilia at 631-724-8820.

Consider what can you give Jesus for His birthday—the gift of your voices.

Thank you and God bless,

Emilia Savarese

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bernstein
Jessie Bernstein
Joseph Blaugrund
Anthony Broncatello
John Burk
Collin Busto

David Chester
John Chester
Nicholas Chester
Theresa Chester
Collin J. Crean
Eddie Cullum
Eric Cullum
David Cussen

Capt. Sean Michael Dolan

P. J. Erskin Timothy Fallon

Major Michael Fantauzzi

J.T. Foltz Mike Foltz Michael Gioia Carl F. Greiner Philip Gudone John Michael Haffner Sean Hendrikson

Tylor J. Hickey John Karies Michael Knipper Dylan Kowalski Thomas LaFemina Alex Lombardi Andrew Lombardi Lt. Clint Lorance Scott Lovelock Andrew Lynch Troy A. Maida, William Maley

William Maley Joseph Marziotto Jr. Thomas Migliara Tim Morris Ryan Murphy John Nachtman

Kaitlyn Nachtman Thomas Nichols Adam Papaizai Michael Poist Michael Polanski Kyle Rathje

Antonia Marie Rivera Ann Karen Sanchez Justin Schneider Christopher Sidor Christopher Singer

Ryan Smith Michael White



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. Out next meeting is on December 13 at 2:30 pm. The book for discussion will be:

Love and Ruin by Paula McLain

Facilitator: Adele Gibbons

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

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection of **December 5, 2021** \$5,447.00 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, 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

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2021

as of December 6, 2021

Our Parish Goal \$68,000.00 Pledges to date \$37,437.00 Percentage of Goal 55.05%

RCIA

Shutel Paquiyauri-Gonzales has committed himself to becoming a follower of Jesus Christ during the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Rite of Welcome. In the Spirit of Love, which is Saint Thomas More, please continue to welcome Shutel as he continues his journey to the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.





Focus on Religious Freedom Catholics for Freedom of Religion

www.cffor.org

"Religious freedom is the lifeblood of the American people, the cornerstone of American government."
—Cardinal Timothy Dolan

What, Exactly, is Religious Freedom?
And How Does This Affect Public Christmas
Displays?

Religious freedom protects people's right to live, speak, and act according to their beliefs, peacefully and publicly. No other nation has America's robust protection of religious freedom in a Bill of Rights. (1) Sadly, in recent decades, some government actions have encroached on this God given and constitutional freedom.

Since the principles of religious freedom prevent the cultural majority from using their power of the state to impose their beliefs on others, both religious and nonreligious, the government cannot become so powerful that it can tell people what to think and how to act. (2) This is especially important to know during the Christmas/Hanukkah holiday.

"Publicly sponsored Nativity scenes on public property are constitutional, especially when the display includes other secular symbols of the holiday. In fact, removing only the religious symbols of the holiday display would demonstrate hostility toward religion, which the First Amendment forbids," said Liberty Counsel. (3)

<u>learningforjustice.org;</u> <u>religiousfreedominstitute.org,</u> 11/1/19; <u>heritage.org(1)(2);</u> <u>usccb.org;</u> <u>libertycounsel.org.</u> 4/1/21(3)

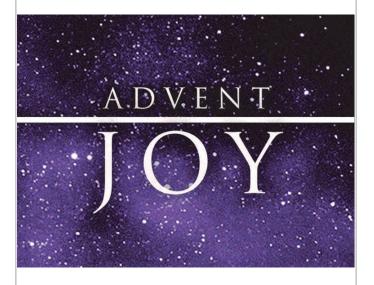
"God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it."

- Pope Francis

Calendar Club Winners Congratulations!

Here are the winners for Nov. 28—Dec. 4, 2021

11/28/2021	\$50	280 Frank & Charlene Dowd
11/29/2021	\$25	1229 Janet Crawford
11/302021	\$25	1016 Joseph & Cheryl Como
12/1/2021	\$25	834 Genovese Boys
12/2/2021	\$25	787 Phyllis Sivori
12/3/2021	\$25	255 "Trina" & Ed Carty
12/4/2021	\$25	1047 Jeff & Mary Hegner
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Courtesy Announcement

1st Announcement

Catholics Returning Home—St. Lawrence the Martyr R.C. Church, corner of Main Street and Handsome Ave., Sayville, NY will conduct a Series called *Catholics Returning Home* on five consecutive Monday evenings at 7:30pm in the Church beginning January 10th. These sessions are for Catholics who have left the active practice of their faith and who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. There will be informal sharing and an update of the Catholic faith. For more details, call Maria Davidson at (631) 580-3160.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marsha Augustyn, Ronnie Borgese, Pamela Brosnan, Paul Connors, Nick Conzo, Joey Cullum, Veronica Corvasce, Marianne Deszcz, Michael Fiorentino, Chet Kalenty, Kevin Kenney, Joe Madonia, Jean Marsala Kieffner, Eleanor Kingsley, Manuel (Mal) Malavet, Robert McGurrin, Barbara Mickelson, Patricia Miller, Ellen Murphy, Philip Pandolfi, Al Pankus, Richard Rantz, Helen Reichert, Blair Rocchio, Joyce Rose, Barbra Mary Sexton, John Spadaro, Andrew J. Valentine, Andrew M. Valentine, Rosalind Warmuth, Janet Weil, Edward Zebrowski,

This listing will expire on March 31, 2022.



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. 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



Altar Bread and Wine Memorial

To arrange the memorial for the Altar Bread and Wine, please call the Rectory at 631-234-5551.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Kathy Capuano, Hedwig Buecken, Ken Sentiff, 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.

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



"God does not love us because we are valuable. We are valuable because God loves us.

—Fulton Sheen

Our current needs include:

Boxed Milk**

Bread

Canned Fruit and Vegetables**

Canned Tomatoes (28 oz)**

Cereal**

Macaroni & Cheese

Pancake Mix**
Pasta/Spaghetti

Peanut butter (smaller jars)**

Rice**

Soup (18-22 oz)**

Spaghetti Sauce

Syrup**

Mustard/Ketchup**

Mayonnaise**

Coffee (1 pound cans/bags)**

Tuna

Apple and other juice**

Toothpaste
Shampoo**
Bar soap**

Toilet Paper**

Laundry Detergent (small)

Paper Towels**

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

Outreach is open Monday through Thursday 10 AM to 2 PM Phone: 631-234-3149

Save the date: The Catholic Health Services Mobile Health Van will be at St. Thomas More on Tuesday, January 4th to administer flu vaccines to anyone in need

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise....."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving.....please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

^{**}we especially need these items

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 Ministry				
() Rosary Altar Soc	iety () Pre-Cana			
() Caring for Altar I	Plants () FOCCUS			
() Landscaping/Plan	nting () Choir			
() Banner Committee	ee			
Name::				
Address:				
Phone:				

Please return to the Rectory for processing.

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)
CALENDAR CLUB 2022
I (We) would like to join St. Thomas More's Calendar Club for 2022.
NAME(S)
ADDRESS
PHONE:
() ONE number for \$25 OR
() FIVE numbers for \$100 (If you return your form and payment by Sunday, December 12, 2021, 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 MOUNT ENCLOSED: \$
(Please return form to Rectory Office or place in Collec-

tion Basket marking envelope Calendar Club 2022).

St. Thomas More Employment Services

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

NEW - Stop & Shop (East Northport): Looking for deli, cashiers, dairy and overnight shifts.

Go to https://stopandshop.reidsystems.com or call: 631-462-5555

NEW – Whole Foods (Commack): 15% Store discounts! Apply on line.

Go to: joinwholefoods.com

NEW – Dick's Sporting Goods: Hiring Now. Go to: www.dicks.com/jobs

<u>NEW – White Castle:</u> Multiple Positions. Apply on line at: https://careers.whitecastle.com

NEW - Walmart: Adding 100+ P/T and F/T positions in new Yaphank Super Store

Go to: www.careeers.walmart.com

NEW – Orsted (Wind Farm Operator): Project Managers and Technicians needed. Port Jefferson location.

Go to: https://us.orsted.com/careers/vacancies#

NEW - First Class Bagel Café (Elwood): Multiple Positions. Inquire within.

Chipotle: Apply on line at: Jobs. Chipotle.com (Restaurant Name: Motor Parkway; Restaurant Number: 1634)

Auto Zone: Positions still available. Go to www.autozone.com/careers

UPDATE: Candlelight Diner: All positions available. Call 631-499-3918 or stop in.

Maryhaven: Many positions at many locations.

Go to: https://maryhavenjobs.chsli.org/search-jobs

WB Mason: Drivers and Warehouse personnel needed. Go to: www.wbmason/careers

PC Richards: Many positions available. Go to: https://careers.pcrichard.com/

Still Looking – Brendel's Bagels: Deli Clerks, Catering, Kitchen Staff Drivers. P/T & F/T.

Call: 631-656-6828

Still Looking - Dunkin' Donuts/Subway: F/T and P/T Flexible positions available.

Call: 718-820-6112.

<u>Still Looking - The Paramount Theater (Huntington):</u> Many positions available. Sign on resume to: kevin@paramountny.com bonuses. Send

Western Suffolk BOCES: Special Education Aides. Go to: wsboces.org/team

Top Golf: Many positions available at the new facility in Holtsville (on the LIE).

Go to: https://topgolf.jobs/

<u>SUNation Solar Systems:</u> Sales Representatives, Service Technicians, Installers, other positions. Send contact information and resume to: <u>Marketing@sunationmarketing.com</u>

United Parcel Service (UPS): Drivers & warehouse personnel needed. Farmingville.

Go to: www.upsjobs.com

Target: Multiple positions at all LI locations. Text "JOBS" to 827438

Applebee's (Commack): Positions available. Inquire within.

Community Care Home Health Services: HHAs and PCAs. Call: 516-965-2809

Northwell Health: Many health and non-health care positions available.

Go to: https://jobs.northwell.edu/job-search-results/

Safelite Auto Glass: Multiple Long Island jobs open, including the Hauppauge location.

Go to: www.safelite.com/careers

Hauppauge Palace Diner: Wait Staff – Hostesses – Line Cooks.

Go to their Facebook page or stop in person.

Catholic Charities of Long Island: Many F/T, P/T and hourly positions available.

Go to: www.catholiccharities.cc/careers

Suffolk Transportation Services: Drivers, Driver Assistants and Mechanic jobs available.

Go to: http://applynow.suffolkbus.com/jobs

BJ's: Local jobs available. Go to: BJs.com/careers

Starbucks: Positions available. Go to: www.starbucks.com/careers

Rite-Aid: Long Island positions available for Pharmacy Technicians and Shift Supervisors.

Catholic Health Services: Many positions available - health care 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

Suffolk County: Many P/T and F/T positions available.

Go to: www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment or call: 631-853-6540

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

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

Shop Rite: Hauppauge and other Long Island positions available.

Go to: https://shop.shoprite.com/careers

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/

<u>CVS Health:</u> 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



The children sang their Advent song at the end of the 9:30 am Mass last Sunday





Fr. Antony blessed the children who brought up the Offertory gifts.

The children's liturgy continues to grow each week. Last Sunday 34 children attended Mass to learn about Advent and Mary.



Last Sunday's Gouth Group

Sharing in the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit











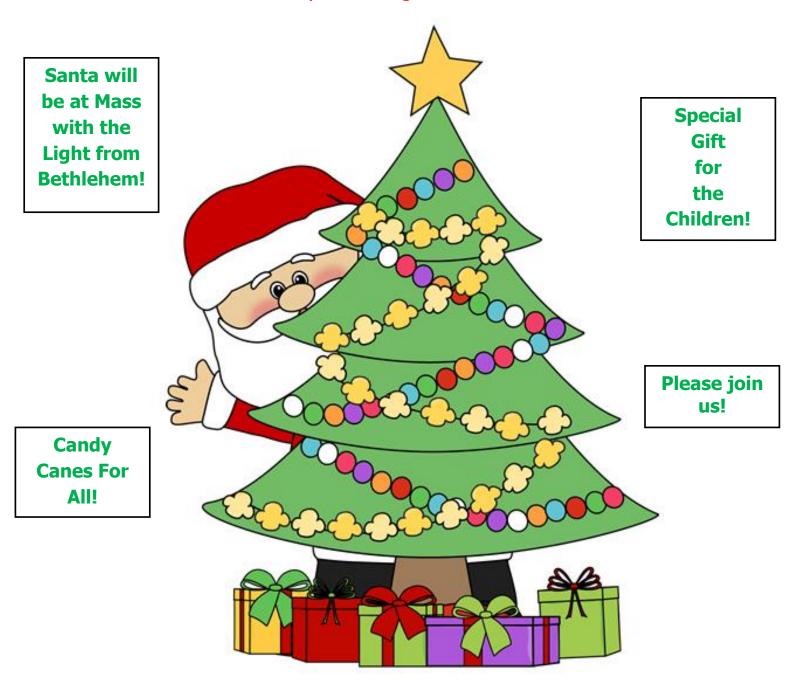
December 5th, 2021

St. Thomas More

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 11, 2021

Immediately Following the 5:00 P.M. Mass



St. Thomas More Outreach

Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree can be found in the Narthex and is filled with tags for gifts and gift cards. We invite you to help us make Christmas special for those less fortunate by donating gift cards, toys, baby clothes, or diapers for out families and those who are in need in our community. Gift cards to Walmart or Target allow our families to shop for their children and cards to Shop Rite or Stop and Shop can be used to add something special to their Christmas dinner table.

There is a special table set up in the Narthex for your donations as well as a basket for gift cards. You can also put gift cards in the weekly collection basket or drop them off at the Outreach office.

There is no need to wrap toys, gifts or put gift cards in special envelopes. Your generosity is always appreciated and is a clear reflection of who we are as a St. Thomas More parish family!

Thank you and God Bless you and your families this Christmas season!

Please submit all donations by December 12th

