

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

November 19, 2023

## Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Parish Mission

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.



artwork by James B Janknecht c.2014

### Parish Resources

**Website:**

<https://www.stmli.org>

**Instagram:**

@stm\_church

@stm\_yg

**Facebook:**

StThomasMoreChurchHauppauge

**Flocknote:**

Text SPIRITOFLOVE to 84576



### Office Contacts

**Rectory:**

(631) 234-5551

rectory@stmli.org

**Religious Education:**

(631) 234-0397

reled@stmli.org

**Outreach:**

(631) 234-3149

outreach@stmli.org

# Masses November 18th- November 26th, 2023

## Saturday, November 18th:

5pm- Robert B Tringali *by Donna & Fred Robinson*

## Sunday, November 19th: Thirty-Third Sunday (Ordinary)

8am- Marion Infantino *by Christine Barraco*

9:30am- Sister Julie Houser *by Joe Houser*

11:30am- Eleanor Thompson *by Alex & Noelle White*

Don Friedman *by Mary Friedman & Family*

## Monday, November 20th:

9am- James J Murphy Sr. *by Joan Murphy & Family*

## Tuesday, November 21st: Presentation of the BVM

9am- George D'Esposito *by Lisa, Thomas & Bryanna*

## Wednesday, November 22nd:

9am- Thomas Siegel *by Vincent P Crudden*

## Thursday, November 23rd:

9am- John Taylor *by Mr & Mrs Michael Keena*

## Friday, November 24th: St Andrew Dũng-Lạc

9am- Richard Gutmann *by Mary & Frank Scorsese*

## Saturday, November 25th:

5pm- Giulianna Destefano *by Anthony Destefano*

## Sunday, November 26th: Christ the King

8am- Sheila Samson *by Mark & Karen Anderson*

9:30am- Jack Gaudet *by Joanna & Richard Bounaparte*

11:30am- David Mohlenbrok *by The STM Choir*

Marie Di Lorenzo *by Bill & Lofi Rudden*

## Matthew 25:31-46 (Christ the King)

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

## Readings for this Week

November 19th, 2023 (Ordinary 33)

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

Psalms 128:1-2,3,4-5

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

## Readings for Next Week

November 26th, 2023 (Christ the King)

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

Psalms 23:1-2,2-3,5-6

1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

Matthew 25:31-46

## Focus Questions for 11/26/23

Matthew 25:31-46

- 1: Are you more of a sheep or more of a goat? Or a little of both?
- 2: What do you have to do to be more like the sheep?
- 3: Describe a time when you found it difficult to do what God was asking of you.

## Family & Children's Question:

How can you become more aware of the needs of others?

# Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

**One Sunday as a farmer was getting in his hay crop**, his minister stopped by. The pastor asked the farmer if he had been to church. "To tell the truth, I would rather sit on the hay load and think about the church than sit in the church and think about the hay." When the mind is in the right place even the hay load can be a worshiping place. If the mind is wavering even the church will be turned into a hay load. What matters is not where we are or what we have; rather it is about how totally we involve and engage ourselves in anything we do or have.

**Today's Gospel is the story of how each servant used the talent given by the master.** The story invites us to focus on how much we are ready to totally engage ourselves in life. Those who had the five and two talents did not waste any time comparing with each other as to who has more. They readily invested the talents and doubled them; whereas the person who had one talent, did not invest for the fear of losing it. Those who refuse or are afraid to grow get frozen and eventually become dead.

**All what we do is what a seed does.** A seed, when it is sown (buried) in the ground, sends roots below, pushes itself up through the hard soil above, opens the buds, blossoms and eventually bears fruit. If it just lies on the ground, soon a yard hen will find it and eat it promptly. Jesus says, "If the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies... it produces much fruit." (John 12:23) Jesus says to us that He came so that we might have life and have it more abundantly. (John 10:10). Let us take life in its every moment to grow. Let us not waste time comparing our potential with each other. Jesus invites us to engage in life more enthusiastically with all that we have and who we are.

**This Thursday is the Great Feast of Thanksgiving.** Thanksgiving is the moment when we freeze our life from all our routine so that we look at life to be much more than a mechanical production or a business contract. We celebrate this feast at the end of the harvest. We witnessed in nature how each single seed has brought forth multiple fruits. We laid out a very small amount and nature creatively paid us back in abundance. Just the realization of this abundance inspires in us a feeling called THANKSGIVING. Likewise, our relationships in life offer us much more than we put in them. At the realization of this mystery of abundant reward from Nature and Life's relationship, let us stop for a moment reflectively and raise our hearts in appreciations of the gifts that made us who we are and offered to us all that we have. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you who are the primary reasons for my being who I am and of having all that I have. HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

With love and prayers,  
Fr. Antony



# His Presence Is Real - Reflections on the Eucharist by Deacon Matt

## Happy Eucharist!

This coming Thursday, many of us will gather with family and friends around the dinner table in the celebration of the great feast of Thanksgiving. Is it possible that there is some connection to this holiday and Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist?

Indeed there is. In fact, it's the very word Eucharist. It comes from the Greek word *eucharistia* (εὐχαριστία) which means "thanksgiving." If we look at the institution of the Eucharist in, for example, Luke's Gospel, we find that Jesus took a cup and gave thanks, and also when he took the bread, he said the blessing before breaking it. These words of thanks and blessing are known in Hebrew as the *berekah prayers*. The

*Jewish blessings over a meal, most importantly during a seder (as was the Last Supper), begin with these familiar words to us Catholics: "Blessed are you, Lord God . . .," as we hear them said by the priest during the consecration of the bread and wine at Mass.*



*How thankful indeed we are to God for all the meals that we eat. But we are most especially thankful for this very special meal that takes place at Mass. We are thankful that God gave us his only begotten Son, Jesus. And we are thankful that Jesus would want to die for each and every one of us so that could have eternal life with God. And we are further thankful that Jesus would give himself to each and every one of us time and time again in Holy Communion.*

*In this great act of thankfulness at the Mass, we participate in the praises sung by the angels in heaven, and the Paschal Mystery (Christ's passion, death and resurrection) is made present for us by the Holy Spirit. Thus, as we gather in thanks at the dinner table this Thursday, let us be thankful for all the blessings we receive from God. And let us be most especially thankful for Jesus and his Real Presence in the Eucharist.*

"This sacrament is called Eucharist because it is an action of thanksgiving to God [and recalls] the Jewish blessings that proclaim – especially during a meal – God's works: of creation, redemption and sanctification." - *Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 1328*

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact me at [eucharist@stmli.org](mailto:eucharist@stmli.org).

## Parish Information

### Staff

#### Pastor

Father Antony Asir

### Contact

[pastor@stmli.org](mailto:pastor@stmli.org)

#### Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Robert D. Weisz

[deacon.matt@stmli.org](mailto:deacon.matt@stmli.org)

#### Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)

Dottie Castaldo (finance)

Alex White (operations)

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#### Religious Education

Mary Ellen Carroll, DRE

Linda Ronning

Joanne Anelli

[mecarroll@optonline.net](mailto:mecarroll@optonline.net)

[reled@stmli.org](mailto:reled@stmli.org)

#### Youth Ministry

Noelle LaFontaine

[youthgroup@stmli.org](mailto:youthgroup@stmli.org)

#### Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director

631-724-8820

### Ministry

#### Parish Outreach

Marti White

[outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)

#### Pastoral Council

Barbara & Joe Fratamico

[bjfrat@optonline.net](mailto:bjfrat@optonline.net)

#### Altar Servers Ministry

Deacon Matt Surico

[altarservers@stmli.org](mailto:altarservers@stmli.org)

#### Eucharistic Ministers

Patty Citro

[pcitro78@yahoo.com](mailto:pcitro78@yahoo.com)

#### Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna

[mpetagna22@gmail.com](mailto:mpetagna22@gmail.com)

#### Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout

[gram11@optonline.net](mailto:gram11@optonline.net)

#### Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig

631-724-2462

#### OCIA

Ann Russo

[redaa@aol.com](mailto:redaa@aol.com)

#### Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani

631-234-0714

# Prayers for Our Community

## Pray for the Sick

Gregory Bennett	Matt O'Connell
Joey Cullum	Al Pankus
Kathryn Douglas	Joanne Pelletier
Barbara Cassetta	George Pflugel
Joseph Cassetta	Nunzio (Steve) Puleio
Barbara Foberg	Rosalie Rocchio
Pat Golembiewski	Richard Ronning
Linda Heller	Noah Simonetti (2 yrs)
William Hoell	John Spadaro
Jim Ilardi	Lorraine White
Richard Landi	John Zuzzolo
Frank Loporto	
Jim Marquette	



\*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2024

## Pray for the Deceased

Robert Aberle



We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones.

## Pray for Our Military

Please continue to pray for the brave members of our parish family who serve our country:



## Altar Bread & Wine Memorial



To arrange the memorial for the Altar Bread & Wine, contact the Rectory. Donation for the week is \$50.

*For to all those  
who have, more  
will be given,  
and they will  
have an  
abundance.*

*Matthew 25:29, NRSV*



To submit a prayer request, fill out the card in the Literature Rack. Return it to the rectory, or place it in the collection basket during mass.

We bring all prayers to Him,  
even those said in silence.

# Parish Operations

## SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:  
November 11th & 12th

**\$6715**

Weekly Goal: \$6700

*St. Thomas More Parish needs your support now more than ever!*

**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.

(If you want to receive envelopes, please fill out the form on the literature rack.)

**Faith Direct:** Sign up today by visiting [faith.direct/NY227](http://faith.direct/NY227), or text 'Enroll' to 631-250-8141. More information is available in the literature rack

WELL DONE,  
—GOOD—  
AND  
faithful  
SERVANT.

### Rectory Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

If in need of the immediate attention of a priest during non-office hours please call **(631) 234-5551** and choose **option 4**

*All other calls received after office hours will be returned the next business day.*

### Calendar Club 2024

Sign ups are now open. Please see the flyer at the end of the bulletin.

Thank you for your support.

### Calendar Club Winners

- November 13 (\$25): Mary Romano (924)
- November 14 (\$25): Katherine L Kane (568)
- November 15 (\$25): Stephen & Linda Malerba (822)
- November 16 (\$25): Hunter Tate (671)
- November 17 (\$25): Erin & Mike Puntururi (922)
- November 18 (\$25): Virginia Zablocki (553)
- November 19 (\$50): John & Carol Siedlecki (747)



# Parish Social Ministry

"Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways!"  
~Matthew 22

Our cupboards are low and we have had to purchase many items that are typically donated. Even 1 or 2 items are a help.

### Our immediate needs...

Beans  
Cereal  
Canned Vegetables/Fruit  
Soup  
Ketchup  
Oatmeal  
Juice/Drink Mixes  
Coffee/Tea

We appreciate all of your donations!  
**Please remember that it is difficult for us to use large cans, bottles, bags of rice, etc. as many of our neighbors do not have the ability to store extra food. Packages for 2-**



**ST. THOMAS MORE**  
† PARISH OUTREACH †

Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone, in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM  
631-234-3149  
Outreach@stmlil.org

During the month of October, Parish Outreach was able to provide food for 55 local families. This included 88 adults and 93 children! We are only able to do this because of you, our parish family! May God bless you every day!



Please do not leave other items such as clothing or household items in the donation bins. Clothing can be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back right corner of the parking lot. Please contact Outreach regarding other donations.  
Thank you!

Although we have not celebrated Thanksgiving yet, Christmas is right around the corner. Our annual Giving Tree is in the narthex and is filled with lots of tags for gift cards and other gift ideas. The tree will be up until December 10th! Please see the flyer for more info!

## St Vincent de Paul



The good news of today's Gospel is the extravagance of what is being given to us. All we need to do is be faithful in "small matters". The cost of fidelity has no comparison to the reward given.

When you give the furniture, household items, and clothing you no longer use to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you are sharing God's extravagant love.

# In Our Parish

## Have you been called by name?

Come and follow Jesus and his teachings!

If you are missing any or all of your Sacraments, or are converting from another religion, come on an incredible journey of faith, love, and community that is the Catholic Church. Contact OCIA by calling the rectory @ 631-234-5551

## Explore issues of life & faith...

**Alpha-**  
Returning to STM  
January 8th, 2024



## Young at Heart

New Members Always Welcome!  
Next Meeting: Fri December 8th @ 12:30

December 12th: Christmas Luncheon  
at Butterfield's (12pm)  
RSVP to Anna @ 631-234-0714

## Tales of the Nativity BIBLE STUDY WITH FATHER ANTONY

November 6th & 13th  
December 4th & 11th



6:30pm in the Church  
Bibles provided



## 25 Years in Service!

On Sunday 11/12 we had the honor of celebrating Fr Norbert's 25th anniversary of his Ordination. We are so grateful for his help at St. Thomas More, and we wish him all the best during his next 25 years.





## In Our Parish

### Children's Christmas Choir Bonus Rehearsals!

Our children are invited to join the Christmas Choir, singing at 3:30pm on Christmas Eve. See the flyer for more information.

Emilia will be running additional rehearsals after the 9:30 masses on Sundays (nice and quick, we will be done well before the 11:30 mass).

Kids (and their parents) who want to sing at Christmas are encouraged to join us.

See the flyer for more information.

### Presentation of Babies!

Please keep this beautiful children and parents in your prayers as they are welcomed into the fold of the Catholic Church!



*A woman who fears*  
**LORD**  
*is to be praised.*  
Proverbs 31:30

## In Our Community

### Holiday Visit to Calverton

Branch Funeral Home is sponsoring a free trip to visit Calverton National Cemetery on Tuesday December 5th.

Coach bus with lavatory. Coffee and donuts will be served on the way there, with pizza served on the way back.



Pick up: 7:45 @ Branch Commack  
8:15 @ Branch Smithtown  
8:30 @ Smithtown Senior Center

Call (631) 724-9500 or visit  
BranchFH.com/Calverton-Bus-Trip  
to reserve your seat on the bus!  
Space is limited!

**Save the Date!**

*St. Kilian Christmas*

*Organ Concert*

In Honor of the 35th Ordination Anniversary  
of Bishop John Dunne as Auxiliary Bishop of the  
Diocese of Rockville Centre



*St. Kilian Parish welcomes back Dr. Joseph Woo,*  
Dean of the Suffolk County American Guild of Organists,  
for an afternoon of musical offerings of the  
Christmas Season!

*Sunday, December 10th at 4:30pm*

*St. Kilian Church*

*Our Christmas Tree Lighting will follow the concert  
outside on the Church Lawn!*



# Happening at St. Thomas More

## Coming Up @ STM

Sun Nov 19th, 12:30pm  
Youth Group

Wed Nov 22nd, 7:00pm  
Interfaith Service  
@ Calvary Lutheran

Thur Nov 23rd, 9:00am  
Mass for Thanksgiving Day

Thur Nov 30th, 5:30pm  
Children's Choir Rehearsal

Thur Nov 30th, 7:00pm  
Choir Rehearsal

## Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday  
9:00 AM

Saturday  
5:00 PM

Sunday  
8:00 AM  
9:30 AM  
11:30 AM

Confessions  
Every Saturday  
4:00 PM-4:45 PM





St. Thomas More

# 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, pajamas, toys, baby clothes, or diapers for our families and those who are in need in our community. Gift cards to Walmart or Target allow our families to shop for their children.

There is a table set up in the Narthex for your donations as well as a basket for gift cards. Please attach the tag to your donation.

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 10th)

# Apostle of the Impossible: Tour of the Relics *of* Saint Jude the Apostle

IN DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



## 2023 Tour Schedule & Locations

All are invited to visit and venerate the relics.

**Monday, November 27, 2023**

**St. Jude Church**

89 OVERLOOK DRIVE, MASTIC BEACH, N.Y. 11951  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 1, 2023**

**Notre Dame Church**

45 MAYFAIR ROAD, NEW HYDE PARK, N.Y. 11040  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023**

**St. Anthony of Padua Church**

20 CHESHIRE PLACE, EAST NORTHPORT, N.Y. 11731  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**Holy Name of Jesus Church**

690 WOODBURY ROAD, WOODBURY, N.Y. 11797  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude: 2:30 p.m.  
Veneration immediately following Mass  
Veneration ends at 9:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 29, 2023**

**St. Patrick Church**

9 NORTH CLINTON AVENUE, BAY SHORE, N.Y. 11706  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

**Monday, December 4, 2023**

**St. Agnes Cathedral**

29 QUEALY PLACE, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, November 30, 2023**

**Holy Family Church**

17 FORDHAM AVENUE, HICKSVILLE, N.Y. 11801  
Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.



For more information on the visit of the  
relics of Saint Jude the Apostle, visit:  
[www.ApostleOfTheImpossible.com](http://www.ApostleOfTheImpossible.com)



# HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON!  
COME PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

SING THIS SONG TO THE MELODY OF "O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL"

O COME ALL YE CHILDREN  
COME TO SING FOR JESUS  
O COME JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS  
CHOIR TO WELCOME HIS BIRTH

COME TO REHEARSALS  
SATURDAYS FROM NOON TO  
ONE

O COME AND LIFT YOUR VOICES  
O COME AND LIFT YOUR VOICES  
O COME LET US ADORE HIM  
CHRIST THE LORD

Only 2 rehearsals: Dec 9th & 16th, 12-1. Ages 8-18.  
We will sing 3:30 Christmas Eve Mass and then through  
the Christmas season at 9:30 mass!

For info or to join, call Emilia by December 2nd  
631-724-8820

# INTERFAITH SERVICE

Each year the Hauppauge Community hosts an interfaith prayer service. Please join us to pray for peace and thanksgiving with our neighbors.

A beautiful night of music, scripture, and prayer  
with...

St. Thomas More RCC

Temple Beth Chai

Calvary Lutheran

United Methodist

Wednesday November 22nd

7pm

Calvary Lutheran  
860 Townline Road  
Hauppauge

# Calendar Club 2024

## The Every Day Lotto!

Numbers are drawn every day of the year (except during the Easter Triduum). The lucky winner of each day is awarded \$25 (or \$50 on Sundays and Holy Days!)

One number for \$25, or 5 numbers for \$100.

Buy as many entries as you want, and win as many times as your luck allows! You can even purchase numbers as gifts for family and friends.

The Calendar Club is a great way to support our parish, and a very important annual fundraiser for us! Please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory, or put it in the basket during Sunday collection.

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

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ONE for \$25     TWO for \$50     THREE for \$75     FIVE for \$100

**\*Early Bird Special: Deadline Sun Dec 17th\***

Order FIVE numbers and get a SIXTH on us!

Note: You must return your form and payment by Sunday  
December 17th.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place in envelope labeled Calendar Club 2024 and return to the rectory or the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!