

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788-4221

January 8, 2023

The Epiphany of the Lord



#### Parish Mission Statement:

St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church is a parish community striving to share the Spirit of Love through Prayer, Worship, the Sacraments, the Teachings of the Church, and our concern for others through Christian Stewardship.

#### **Contact Numbers**

 Rectory
 Religious Ed
 Outreach

 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

# Masses for this coming week

January 8, 2023 The Epiphany of the Lord Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

### Saturday, January 7

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5:000pm—Richard Stout by Terry & Walter Happe Sunday, January 8—The Epiphany of the Lord

8am—Frances Tringali by Andrew & Rhonda

Tortorici

9:30am—Marie Utter by Marilyn Amodio

11:30am—Ed Zebrowski by Eileen Santangelo

Monday, January 9—The Baptism of the Lord

9am—Ella Santoro by Marie Koch &

Warren Soper

## Tuesday, January 10

9am—Ella Santoro by Barbara & Curt Koch

Wednesday, January 11

9am—Giancarlo Caramellino by JoAnn & Curt Keely

Thursday, January 12

9am—Frank Proceacini by Deacon Ed &

Laura Vigneaux

#### Friday, January 13—Saint Hilary

9am—Marie Utter by Eunice Struzinski

Saturday, January 14

(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

5:000pm—Ed McAllister by The McAllister Family

Sunday, January 15—Second Sunday in

**Ordinary Time** 

8am—Ramon Villongco *by Eileen & Mike Grant & Family* 

9:30am—Fran McNamara by Kathleen Daily

11:30am—Patricia O'Connell by Matt &

Nancy O'Connell



# Growing through the Sunday Scriptures

January 15, 2023 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:29-34

#### A reading from the Gospel according to John:

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel." John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

#### **Focus Questions:**

- 1) "Behold the Lamb of God." We hear these words at each Eucharist. How central is the Eucharist in your life?
- 2) Share a time when you didn't realize until later that God was working in your life.
- 3) How comfortable are you with telling others about your faith in Jesus?

#### Family and children's question:

Relate the story of someone in your life who you came to recognize as someone special.



#### FR. ANTONY'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Jesus was walking along one day. He came upon a man crying. Jesus asked him "My Friend what is wrong?". The man replied, "I'm blind; can you help me?" Jesus healed the man. He received his sight and went on his way. As Jesus continued walking another man came to him crying, "I am lame and can't walk; can you help me?". Jesus healed the man and they both went down the road. Jesus then met a third man crying. Jesus said, "Good friend what is wrong?" He said, "Lord, help me I am a minister of a church." And Jesus sat down and wept with him. Jesus can easily heal all the physical illness and deficiency. But when it comes to the question of converting human hearts even God is incapable of turning them to listen or love God.

Today is the feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany is from the Greek word 'epiphanein' which means to reveal, show forth, to demonstrate. Feast of Epiphany recalls how God reveals and makes to us His Godhead in human terms so that we can understand and accept Him in divine terms. As a human child Jesus was named 'Emmanuel' meaning 'God is with us'. At His birth, God made His special star appear to help the wise men easily spot the place where He was born. The wise people rightly followed the star to come to Bethlehem.

The star disappeared only to make them understand that a natural sign (like a star) could lead them only up to a certain point. Their inquiry with King Herod explains how their direction is further clarified by the prophecies of Scriptures. Thus finally, they saw the divine revelation of God in human child Jesus with the help of signs from the sky and the Scripture.

Herod too was revealed with the same signs from the sky and scriptures but his way of handling the revelation was not to recognize God's presence but get rid of the child. He misread God's revelation and understood the birth of the divine child as a threat to his royal power. God's revelation invites the humans to relate with Him. God reveals for the sole purpose of relating with us. But it is up to us, either to treat God as a person of relationship or to take Him as power to intimidate us. God in Jesus reveals Himself as a Child who depends on the humans. In the Scriptures we can easily find God to be the unbeatable power and the unfathomable wisdom. But the Christmas events present the same God as a fragile and vulnerable human child in our hands. Those who relate with this God, will experience God's glory and peace in life. God's fragility and vulnerability reveal that God's gift of life and grace is present in all human conditions, even in the fragile and

**Like Herod, we may also choose to misuse the rich Grace** revealed in God's vulnerability for our own selfish whims and fancies. God leaves the choice to our personal decision to use or misuse His Grace, to live our life fully well with the help of God's Grace or to decide misusing God's grace to shape and reduce life to our human convenience. "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.... He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him....but to those who did accept him God gave power to become children of God." (John 1:9, 11-12)

With love and prayers,

vulnerable conditions.

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** 

Dorothy Castaldo ext. 11
Theresa Recce ext. 18
Alex White ext. 10

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

# CALENDAR CLUB WINNERS

Next Set of Winners to be Posted in February!

# CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2022

as of December 19, 2022

Our Parish Goal \$69,300.00 Pledges to date \$34,673.00 Percentage of Goal 50.03%



Please remember in your prayers these wonderful couples who are participating in our St. Thomas More Pre-Cana Program.

- Jessica Ferris & Joe Ferro
- Gina Delisi & Steve Ferraro
- Dionna Keeler & Robert Walters
- Noelle LaFontaine & Alex White

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.



Young At Heart

Next Meeting
Friday, January 13th
New Members Welcome

Questions contact Anna @ 631-234-0714



### **Altar Bread and Wine Memorial**

To arrange the memorial for the Altar Bread and Wine, please call the Rectory at 631-234-5551. Donation for the week is \$50. A card will be sent to the family.

# 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 which is the Catholic Church. **Contact RCIA** by calling the rectory at 631-234-5551.

# **Courtesy Announcements**

The Parish of Good Shepherd in Holbrook presents The Christmas Presepio. Come visit this traditional Neapolitan Nativity and enjoy some quiet moments. Located in the Chapel of Good Shepherd Church. It is one of the largest of its kind in the world and contains many thousands of figures, buildings, miniature and relics. Open every day from 9:00am-9:00pm. (Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.) The Nativity is open until January 15, 2023. All are welcome! 1370 Grundy Avenue, Holbrook, 631-588-7689.

The Smithtown Adult Basic Education
Program at the Joseph M. Barton District
Building, 26 New York Ave, Smithtown is
federally funded to provide English as a Second
Language, Adult Basic Education, High School
Equivalency and Citizenship Preparation as
well as Technology Skills, Health & Financial
Literacy, and Workforce Preparation during the
day and evening. Free classes are open to all
Suffolk residents. For further questions, please call
631-382-2182.

The Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville Celebrate Irish Night, Saturday, March 4, 2023 at St. Brigid's in Westbury, NY. Beginning with liturgy, followed by a joyful evening of music, dancing, and Irish spirit! Tickets to attend are \$45 per person or \$100 for 2 people AND one raffle book and can be purchased online. Raffle chance books are \$10 each (12 chances per booklet). Please contact the Advancement Office at 631-842-6000 ext. 246 for more information or visit the event website at

www.sistersofstdominic.org/irishnight2023



## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bernstein Jessie Bernstein Joseph Blaugrund Anthony Broncatello John Burk Collin Busto 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 Matthew L. Hamann Sean Hendrikson Tylor J. Hickey John Karies Joseph Kirsch Michael Knipper Dylan Kowalski

Andrew Lynch Troy A. Maida, William Maley Thomas Migliara Tim Morris Adam Moumine John Nachtman Kaitlyn Nachtman Thomas Nichols Adam Papaizai Michael Poist Michael Polanski Kyle Rathie Antonia Marie Rivera Ann Karen Sanchez Justin Schneider Christopher Sidor Christopher Singer Rvan Smith Anthony Troise Michael White



Thomas LaFemina

Alex Lombardi Andrew Lombardi

Lt. Clint Lorance Scott Lovelock

## 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 is on **January 9, 2023** at **2:30 p.m**. Our book for discussion will be: <u>Mercy Street</u> by Jennifer Haigh. Facilitator: Joan Shea

For further info. and/or to register, call Marilyn at 631-234-5805 or Joan at 631-234-1739

# SUPPORT COLLECTION

Weekly Collection Dec. 24/25 \$3,398.00 Christmas Collection \$24,757.00 Weekly Collection Dec. 31/Jan. 1 \$5,559.00

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.

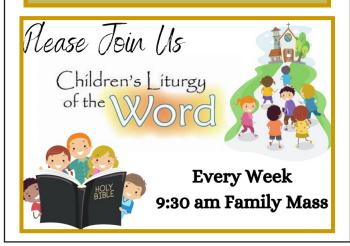
Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless You,

Fr. Antony

# **Children's Liturgy Crew**

Come meet the 3 Kings at the 9:30 Family Mass on the Epiphany (January 8th)

We will resume January 15th.





# PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marsha Augustyn, TPB, Caiola Family,
John Caliendo, Joseph Cassetta, Linda Cook,
Nick Conzo, Joey Cullum, Catherine DeSola,
Marianne Deszcz, Michael Fiorentino,
Richard Fiorentino, Barbara Foberg,
Patty Golembiewski, Geri Grincavitch,
Richard Gutmann, Theresa Haas, M.L. Harvey,
Linda Heller, Jean Herlihy, Monica Kanischak,
Joseph Lagomarsine, Frank Macchio, Rev Janusz
Mocarski, Ellen Murphy, Al Pankus, Donald Parisi,
Aodan Reddy, Helen Reichert, Lorraine Rouse,
Greg Sandbichler, Margi Schwarting, John Spadaro,
Lorraine White, Mark Zlatniski.

Please see the cutout in the bulletin and kindly submit your requests.

The previous listing expired on September 30, 2022 The new listing will expire on March 31, 2023



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



# PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Annunzio Colucciello, Josephine Testani, Carol Crusi, Loretta R. Schweizer, Stephen E. Dutton Sr., Rosalind Warmuth, 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 <a href="https://www.FaithDirect.net">www.FaithDirect.net</a> to sign up: our church code is <a href="https://www.FaithDirect.net">NY227</a>. 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.

#### IMPORTANT DRVC INFORMATION

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claims for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use can be found at the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page. The website can be found at: https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc

# St. Thomas More Parish Social Ministry OUTREACH

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."

~Mother Teresa



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

# The volunteers at Outreach would like to wish you and your families a very happy and healthy 2023!

# Because of you

We were able to provide 50 families with Christmas dinner.

# Because of you

Parents were able to purchase gifts for 84 children.

# Because of you

we were able to distribute over 300 toys to the needy in our community including St. John of God, Miraculous Medal, the Eastern Farm Workers, and Bretton Woods Share and Care.

# Because of you

residents at Mercy Haven and Sober House received a gift card for Christmas and single moms at Life Center received clothing, diapers, and gift cards for their children.

Every year we are blessed and amazed at the generosity and caring we see from our St. Thomas More Parish Family!

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.

# ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please consider a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that we can continue to offer comfort to those in need.

To contact us, call 631-648-2760 or e-mail svdp.stm@aol.com

REGISTRATION and/or

# 2022 CONTRIBUTION REQUEST

CONTRIBUTION REQUEST	ENVELOPE REQUEST
I/we would like a record of our 2022 contributions to St. Thomas More:	NAME(s):
Name:	ADDRESS:
Address:	PHONE: E-MAIL:  ( ) I/we would like to register in the parish.  ( ) Please send contribution envelopes.
Phone:	( ) I am already registered in the parish but do not receive contribution envelopes. I would like to receive them.
Email:	( ) Other (Please return in collection or return to Church Office)
	CALENDAR CLUB 2023
Please return to the Rectory for processing.	I/we would like to join St. Thomas More's Calendar Club for 2023
PRAYING FOR THE SICK  — Adding a name Request —  PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE	NAME(s) ADDRESS:
PARISH LISTING OF THOSE WHO ARE ILL:	PHONE:
Name of person (s) who is (are) ill:	( ) ONE number for \$25 <b>OR</b> ( ) FIVE numbers for \$100
Relationship to the person who is ill:	( ) 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.
Person making the Request:	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$
TODAY'S DATE: (Please place in collection basket or drop off at the Rectory)	(Please return form to Rectory Office or place in Collection Basket marking envelope CALENDAR CLUB 2023).

# St. Thomas More Employment Services POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Target:** Multiple locations.

Go to: www.target.com/careers

<u>Dollar Tree:</u> Text DOLLAR to 58046 or go to: <u>DollarTree.com/careers</u> <u>Stony Brook Medical Center:</u> Clinical and support staff positions available.

Go to: https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/careers

**Northwell Health:** Many positions still available at multiple locations.

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

FedEx Office: Local positions available.

Go to: https://careers.fedex.com/office/jobs

**Newsday:** Multiple positions available.

Go to: https://newsday.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/Newsday

or send an email to: NewsdayHR@Newsday.com

**Educational Bus Transportation:** Drivers Needed.

Call: 631-789-2300

**Dunkin':** Positions available at many locations.

Go to: https://www.dunkindonuts.com/en/careers

McDonald's: Many LOCAL positions available.

Go to: mchire.com or inquire within.

**CVS Health:** Many local positions available.

Go to: <a href="https://jobs.cvshealth.com/">https://jobs.cvshealth.com/</a>

<u>United Parcel Service (UPS):</u> Drivers & warehouse personnel needed. Farmingville.

Go to: www.upsjobs.com

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

Go to: www.catholiccharities.cc/careers

**BJ's:** Local jobs available.

Go to: BJs.com/careers

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

Go to: <a href="http://applynow.suffolkbus.com/jobs">http://applynow.suffolkbus.com/jobs</a>

Walmart: Positions available.

Go to: www.careeers.walmart.com

Catholic Health Services: Many positions available - health care and non-health care positions.

Go to: <a href="https://jobs.chsli.org/">https://jobs.chsli.org/</a>

**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: <a href="https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment">www.suffolkcountyny.gov/employment</a> or call: 631-853-6540 United States Postal Service (USPS): Many career opportunities available.

Go to: 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: **imtwhite@optonline.net** 

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

# Are You Being Called to Serve as a Deacon?

By virtue of Baptism, we are called to holiness—the lay faithful as well as bishops, priests, and deacons.

But have you felt called to serve in a much deeper and committed way?

If you are a man between the ages of 30 and 59, who feels that you are being called to ordained ministry as a deacon in the Church, you are invited to come for an **Evening of Prayer and Discernment** with other men of faith to discuss and explore that very question. There is no cost to the evening—just your time and openness.

#### COME TO ANY ONE OF THESE MEETINGS -

PREPARED - to LISTEN, to PRAY, to REFLECT, to DISCERN where God is calling you!

**EVENINGS** are being offered conveniently at **THREE LOCATIONS**.

7:00PM, Tuesday, January 10—St. Joseph Ronkonkoma, 45 Church Street

7:00PM, Wednesday, January 11—Maria Regina Seaford, 3945 Jerusalem Avenue
7:00PM, Thursday, January 19—St. Aidan Williston Park, 505 Willis Avenue

with an EARLY WEEKEND OPTION to be held at

1:00PM, Sunday, January 15 —St. John the Evangelist Center Moriches, 25 Ocean Avenue

RSVP by Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, to 631-423-0483 Ext. 179 or by email to <u>diaconateformation@drvc.org</u>

We thank you and look forward to being with you.

# St. Patrick School Smithtown Open House Sunday, January 29th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM











- Enrollment of more than 460 students,
- Two classes per grade level.
- Full and half-day Nursery and Pre-K programs.
- Full-day Kindergarten.
- Safe and secure environment with on campus security.
- Catholic values incorporated throughout our curriculum.
- All teachers are New York State certified.
- · First Friday Masses, religious education & sacramental preparation.

Catholic Schools

- Before and after care available.
- Technologically advanced classrooms include, iPads, Chromebooks, SMART Boards, Wonderworks Robotics, Little Bit STEAM sets, flat panels, and document cameras.
- Beautifully situated on 19 acres.
- Active school community offering a varied program of sports, extracurricular and faith-based activities.
- Secure interactive outdoor playground.
- Full-size modern gym with performing stage.
- Dedicated lunchroom with licensed kitchen staff, hot lunch daily.
- 100% acceptance rate to area Catholic high schools.

For more information, please call (631) 724-0285 or visit spssmith.org



### **DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?**

## YOU'RE INVITED TO TRY ALPHA AT STM

#### **EXPLORE LIFE...FAITH...MEANING**

**ALPHA:** an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal environment.

**ALPHA:** go on a personal journey which can lead to a personal encounter with Jesus.

**ALPHA:** ask questions, share ideas, build friendships, and experience the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- gather once a week for a delicious dinner and dessert. And IT'S FREE!
- ■watch a short video featuring inspiring stories and interviews about faith
- have a conversation with your group members about questions related to our faith
- ■take time to take care of your spirit with the gift of **ALPHA**
- ■bring a friend or make some new ones
- ■come try the introductory session on January 12th

For more information or to sign up, call (631-234-0397) or email us at alpha2023@stmli.org

**ALPHA** begins January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

