

*Sharing
the Spirit
of Love*

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

MARCH 3RD, 2024



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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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 March 2nd - March 10th, 2024

Saturday, March 2nd:

5pm- Kenny Granville *by Bruce & Joan Cameron*

Sunday, March 3rd: Third Sunday of Lent

8am- Robert Demonte *by Your PreCana Friends*

9:30am- Mary Hartnett *by Sue & Chris Abruzzo*

11:30am- Moria Dennis *by Jeralyn Spiegel*

Monday, March 4th:

9am- Amy Pascone *by The Cloke Family*

Tuesday, March 5th:

9am- Nury Morcillo *by The Rodriguez Family*

Wednesday, March 6th

9am- Beryl Stoss *by JoAnn Eyring*

Thursday, March 7th:

9am- Hortense Morrison *by Dennis & Patricia Sheridan*

Friday, March 8th:

9am- Christopher Weidig *by Mom & Dad*

Saturday, March 9th:

5pm- Judith Ellen Lentino *by William & Ellen Lentino*

Sunday, March 10th: Fourth Sunday of Lent

8am- Ellen Cleary *by Their Family*

9:30am- Walter Markiewicz *by Gina Kilian*

11:30am- Patricia Budd *by Deborah DeSantis*

John 3:14-21 (Lent 4)

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

Focus Questions for 3/10/24

John 3:14-21

- 1: How is the cross a sign of salvation and healing for you?
- 2: How can you make Sundays more a part of your faith?
- 3: Jesus said that God loved the world so much that he sent his son, Jesus, into the world. What impact does this fact of God's love have on you?

Family & Children's Question:

How are you using the practices of prayer, fasting, and good works to get closer to God?

Readings for This Week

March 3rd, 2024 (Lent 3)

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalms 19:8,9,10,11

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

John 2:13-25

Readings for Next Week

March 10th, 2024 (Lent 4)

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

Psalms 137:1-2,3,4-5,6

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21



Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

"Why are you carrying the door under your arm?"

"It is the front door of my house. I lost the key and am taking it to have a fresh key made."

"Make sure you don't lose the door too or you won't be able to enter your house."

"Well, I left a window open just to be on the safe side."

Every place of worship (church, synagogue, mosque, temple etc.) is just a door to enter into God's presence. The aim of worship is to find/experience God's abiding presence in each one of us. When we fail to realize this key-message, we will end up carrying the door of the house of God thinking that we are protecting God and God's house. Religion with all its theology, liturgy, and administrative structures is nothing but a door to the house of God. Every religion's sole aim must help realize God's presence in their followers- in them and others.

In today's Gospel we see how people used God's house to their whims and fancies, a marketplace of buying and selling. Jesus redeems it to its original place of God abiding as Father, in order to relate with them as His children. It is not a marketplace but home of God where everyone becomes God's children. The purpose of God's house among us is not to gather us as a group with humanly vested interest. It is for all of us to grow as one big human family of God beyond all discriminations of creed, class, caste, and color.

The aim of the church/Temple is not to enshrine/prison God in order to have access to Him whenever we want and to whatever we need Him for. The place of Worship is the inviting presence of God to make each one of us as His walking/living presence in our day to day lives. Worship-place is not what we do for God, but it is the quiet place where we give ourselves quality time to focus on what God wants to do with us.

At worship we don't do anything for God rather we make ourselves totally available for God to live and act in and through us in His mighty deeds. It is not merely God's house rather it is God's presence living among us. God's house does not add any glory to Him, rather it enhances our identity and empowers us as God's children. Let us pray that these Lenten Spiritual exercises make us realize that we are God's temple carrying God's presence in our body. Let us try to acknowledge and experience God's same presence in others.

During Lent we pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 pm in the church for a particular intention. This Friday March 8th at 7:00 pm we pray the Stations for those affected by natural disasters. Please come and pray with us.

With love and prayers,
Fr. Antony



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

The Mass: Liturgy of the Eucharist - Part VIII

We have one more thing to look at that is in common with all the Eucharistic Prayers during Mass before we take an in-depth look at each. In every Eucharistic Prayer, after the Consecration takes place, we are offered the opportunity to express the Mystery of Faith.

There are three forms of the Mystery of Faith. What's very interesting is that the Eucharistic Prayer is prayed to the Father, but the Mystery of Faith is directed to the Son. Each of the three forms expresses our belief in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection in slightly different ways.

The first two forms ("We proclaim your Death ..." and "When we eat this Bread ...") are rooted in *1 Corinthians 11:26*: "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes." The third form ("Save us Savior ...") comes partly from John chapter 4 (the acclamation of the woman at the well) and partly from what say at the beginning of each Station during



the Stations of the Cross ("We adore you O Christ ... you have redeemed the world").

But why do we say one of these at every Mass? And why directly after Christ's Body and Blood become present on the altar? These mysteries we pronounce are, at their heart, Eucharistic Acclamations. They are beyond mere human reason. We take part in the Real Presence of Christ to come ever closer to the One who gave his life for us. We participate in Holy Communion to advance the communion we wish to have with God and all his people, and God himself. May our belief in the death and resurrection of the Son truly be the source of light and hope in our lives.

"There is an urgent need, then, to see once again that faith is a light, for once the flame of faith dies out, all other lights begin to dim. The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence. A light this powerful cannot come from ourselves but from a more primordial source: in a word, it must come from God." – *Lumen Fidei*, Pope Francis, 29 June 2013, no. 4.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?
Contact me at eucharist@stmli.org.

Parish Information

Staff

Pastor

Father Antony Asir

Contact

pastor@stmli.org

Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico

deacon.matt@stmli.org

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Robert D. Weisz

Rectory

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theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (finance)

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Alex White (operations)

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youthgroup@stmli.org

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Emilia Savarese, Director

631-724-8820

Ministry

Parish Outreach

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outreach@stmli.org

Pastoral Council

Barbara & Joe Fratamico

bjfrat1@gmail.com

Altar Servers Ministry

Deacon Matt Surico

altarservers@stmli.org

Eucharistic Ministers

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Lector Ministry

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mpetagna22@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout

gram11@optonline.net

Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig

631-724-2462

OCIA

Ann Russo

redaa@aol.com

Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani

631-234-0714

Prayers for Our Community

Pray for the Sick

Daniel Atkinson	Jim Marquette
Anna Beltrani	Ellen Murphy
Gregory Bennett	Matt O'Connell
Barbara Cassetta	Deacon Al Pankus
Joseph Cassetta	Patricia Parker
Joseph Christiana	Joanne Pelletier
Kathryn Douglas	George Pflugel
Bill Dowd	Nunzio (Steve) Puleio
Linda Dowling	Rosalie Rocchio
Thomas Dwyer	Richard Ronning
Barbara Foberg	Lorraine Rouse
Susie Golembiewski	Mike Rouse
Linda Heller	Noah Simonetti (2 yrs)
Jean Herlihy	John Spadaro
Richard Landi	Peggy Stepanek
Maryanne Landi	Andrew M Valentine
Frank Loporto	Lorraine White
Ildy Loverde	John Zuzzolo

*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2024

Pray for the Deceased

Anthony DeMonaco

Peter Catalano

Joseph "Ed" Carty

Michael Fischetti

Richard Fiorentino

William Lentino

Donald Larney

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:

Troy A. Maida	Joseph Kirsch
Connor Hendrickson	Allen Kirsch
Evan Hendrickson	Nicholas Gajda
Christopher Sidor	Alexandria Feys Gajda
Ryan Smith	Andrew Lynch
Will Maley	

We also pray for our veterans, that they receive the support they need here at home.

Altar Bread & Wine Memorial



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

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25, NRSV

Pray for our Clergy

Fr Antony Asir
The Capuchin Friars at
Port Jefferson

Bishop John Barres
Pope Francis

Fr Lenny Carlino
Deacon Ed Vigneaux
Deacon Bob Weisz
Deacon Matt Surico

...and for all those men and women considering a life of devotion to God.

Parish Operations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:
February 24th & 25th

\$6309

Weekly Goal: \$6700

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

Please consider signing up for **Faith Direct!**

Faith Direct allows you to donate directly to the church electronically. No checks. No envelopes. No calling for tax statements.

And best of all, no human error. Please consider making the change and supporting our parish electronically!

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.

Extra Collection: March 10th!

Next week our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief



Hallow

Parish Social Ministry

TRUE WORSHIP IS TO WORK FOR
JUSTICE AND CARE FOR THE POOR
AND OPPRESSED.



ST. THOMAS MORE
† PARISH OUTREACH †

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

Our immediate needs for this week...

Pasta Sauce
Mustard
Milk
Chef Boyardee Meals
Juice
Juice Mixes

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 2-4 people are ideal.

Who you helped last month...

During the season of Lent we will share some suggestions for how to “eat simply”

If you are ordering in for dinner, pick up food instead of using Door Dash/Uber Eats. Make a simple, homemade dessert for after dinner and donate what it would have cost had you ordered something in.

We continue to have clothing and household goods left outside the Outreach office.

We do not have storage for these items and request that you place them in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back right corner of the parking lot. Please contact Outreach regarding other donations.

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.



Poor Man's SUPPER



In today's Gospel Jesus is asked “What sign can you show us?” Every day we can see signs of how God has visited us in the blessings of our lives. Let us be a sign of God's love by being a blessing to others.

THANK YOU to all who supported our recent Wall Of Envelopes fundraiser and made it a success!

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of our cash prizes: Brad Fine, Ann Russo, and Joe Schaefer.

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

In Our Parish

Young at Heart

New Members Always Welcome!
Next Meeting: Fri March 8th, 2024
Join us for our St. Patrick's Luncheon!
Call Anna @ 631-234-0714

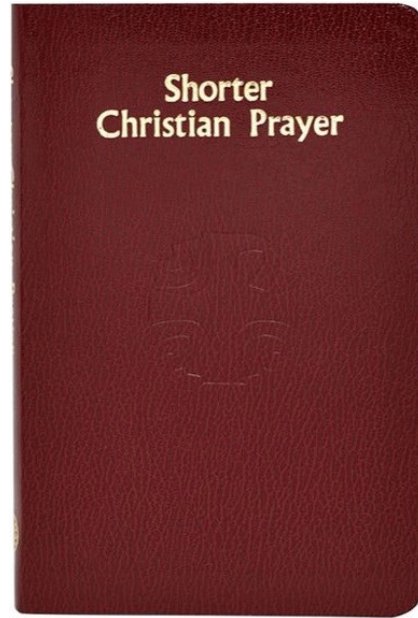
Children's Liturgy!

Children 4-8 are welcome to join us, Sundays @ 9:30. Each week our volunteers teach the children the liturgy in an age appropriate fashion, with fun crafts and activities!



Missing! Please Return!

During the pandemic, many of these books were taken home for prayer. However, many were not returned, and now we are running low! If you have copies of this from the church in your home, please return them! We pray Morning Prayer each week-day at 8:30am. Bring the book and join us!!



REWARD: Will be great in heaven!



**"Destroy
this
temple,
and**

**I will raise it
again in three
days"**

John 2:19, NIV

do
JUSTICE

Happening at St. Thomas More

Coming Up @ STM

Sun Mar 3rd, 12:30pm
Youth Group
Lent Check-In

Tues Mar 5th, 7:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration

Wed Mar 6th, 7:30pm
Knights of Columbus
Business Meeting

Thur Mar 7th, 5:30pm
Children's Choir Rehearsal

Thur Mar 7th, 7:00pm
Choir Rehearsal

Fri Mar 8th, 12:30pm
Young At Heart

Sun Mar 10th, all masses
Hospitality Sunday

Sun Mar 10th, 12:30pm
Youth Group

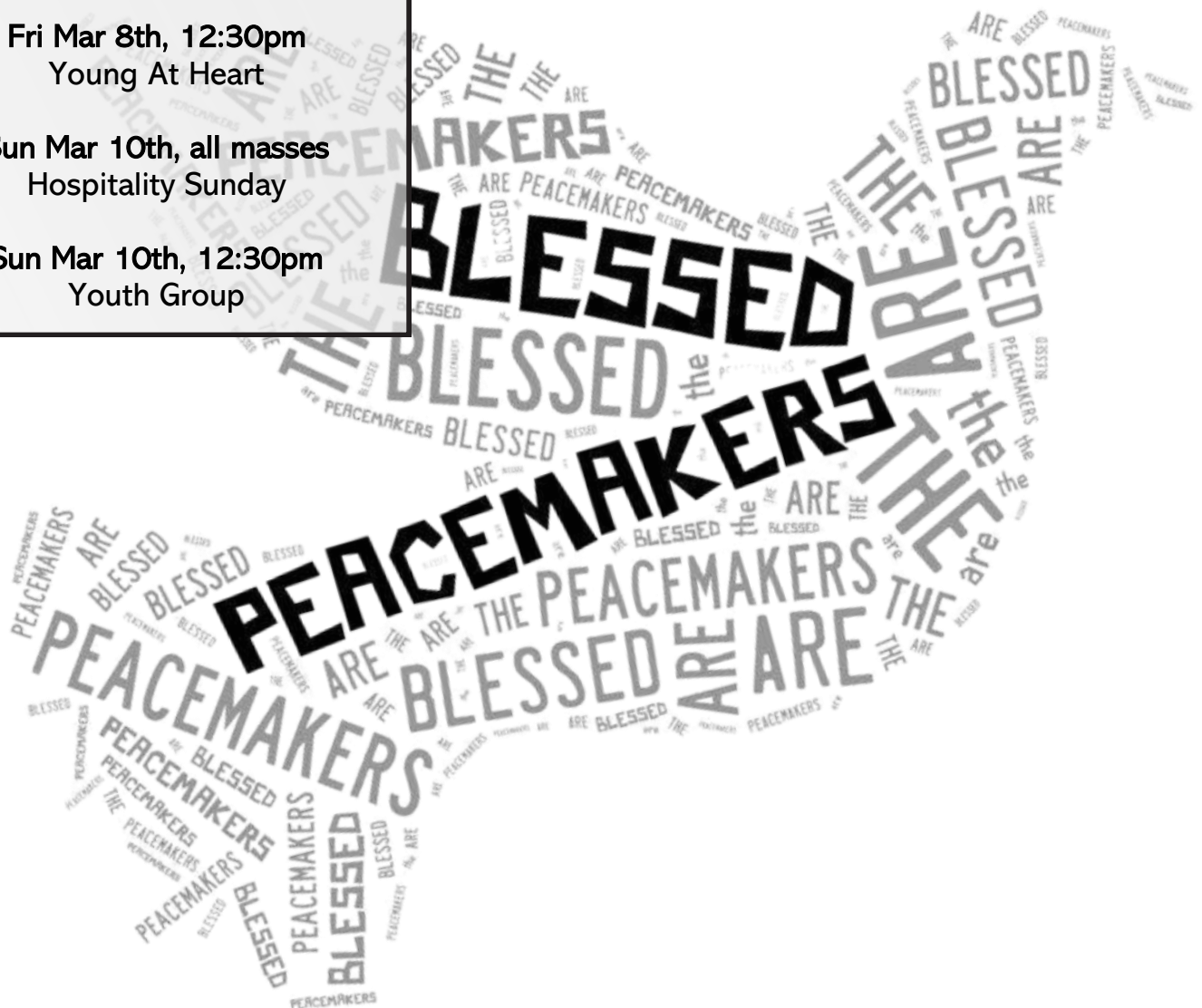
Weekly Mass Schedule

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



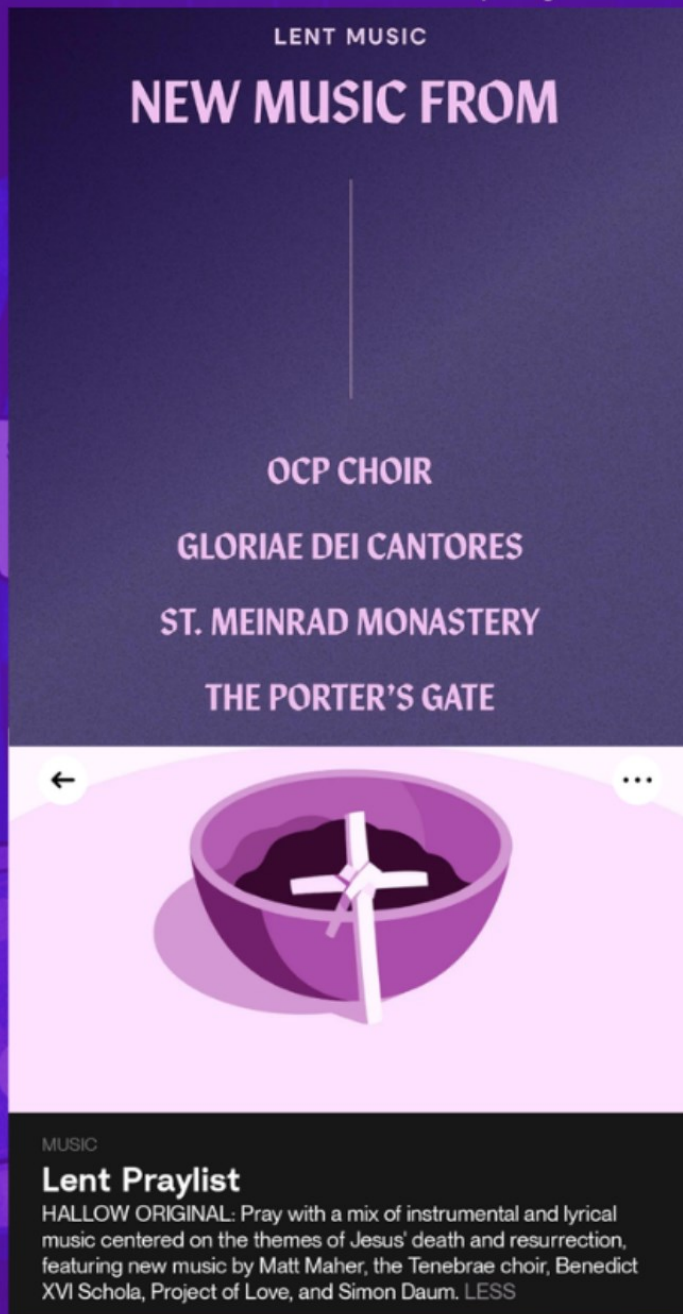
Hallow UPDATES

For the remainder of Lent, this page will exist to offer updates and tips using the Hallow app to expand your prayer life.

As always, if you have any questions or issues with the app, feel free to reach out to Alex in the rectory...623-234-5551 or rectory@stmli.org

Lent Praylist

Do you get it? Its like a “playlist”, but with “pray”. #puns
Check it out, lots of great music for Lenten reflection and prayer.

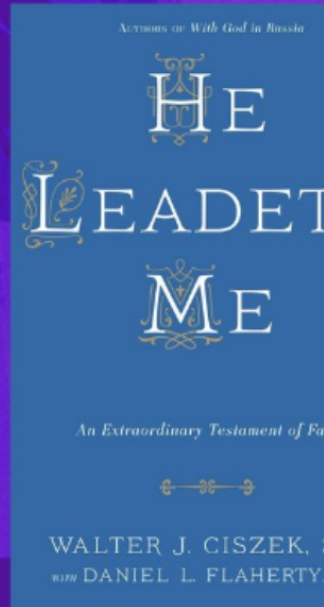


He Leadeth Me

Fr. Walter Ciszek's book is available at all major online retailers, or consider supporting a local independent bookseller!

Paperback on Amazon for ~\$13, Kindle for \$10.

Also available:
With God in Russia by Fr. Ciszek.



DID YOU KNOW?

The average person spends about 3 hours on their phone each day! Do you know how much bacteria can be transferred to your phone in those 3 hours? Some studies suggest our phones have three times as much bacteria as a doorknob!

Consider giving your phone a good clean once a week. Alcohol prep swabs are perfectly safe for use on phones. Make sure you take your case off and clean inside and out!

Hallow LENT

He Leadeth Me

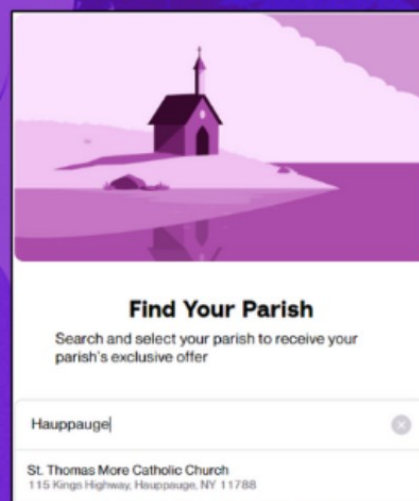


How to Access Hallow Plus through Easter:

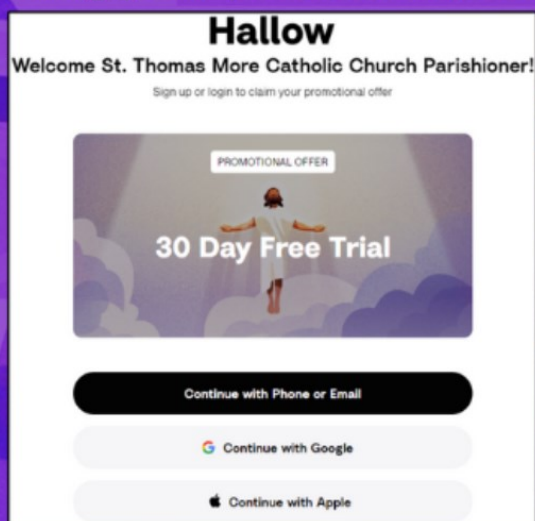
1: Scan the QR code or go to <http://hallow.com/holyday>



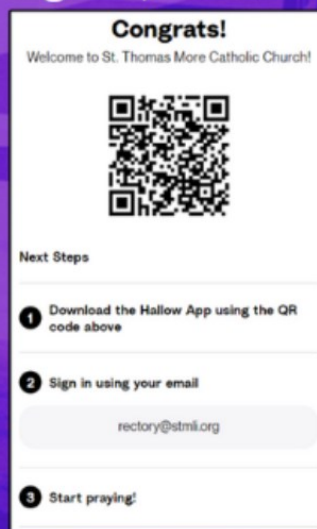
2: Search for “Hauppauge” and select our Parish



3: If you see this screen, create an account! We recommend using your phone number!



4: Use the QR code, or search Hallow in the app store to download. Then just sign in, and start praying!



Stations of the Cross

Every Friday at 7pm

2/16: for the Sick and the Disabled, and those who help ease their burden.

2/23: for the Addicted, and those struggling with Temptation.

3/1: for our Children, and all who are responsible for guiding them.

3/8: for those affected by Natural Disasters.

3/15: for Peace in our community, country, and world.

3/22: for all who Hunger, in body and heart and mind and soul.

*to be preceded by a Soup Supper at 6pm in Walden Hall

St. Thomas More Lenten Project 2024

This year we will be supporting...



A Long Island based nonprofit providing resources and support for those impacted by cognitive decline.

Please see more info about ADRC on the bulletin board in the Narthex, and consider giving to this wonderful organization.

COMING ON WEDNESDAY
MARCH 27TH @ 7:30PM



The Way of the Cross

with Jesus and Mary, from
Golgotha to the Resurrection

by Fr Slavko Barbaric OFM

LED BY LECTORS AND THE ADULT CHOIR

LENTEN MASS OF HEALING

Sunday, March 10th at 11:30am
anointing of the sick to follow



· BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED ·



MON 3/25 RECONCILIATION DAY

Confession available from 3:00pm-9:00pm at St Thomas More, as well as all parishes in the Diocese.

TUES 3/26

Chrism Mass at 4pm at St. Agnes Cathedral. Blessing of the Holy Oils for the next year.

WED 3/27

Choir Cantata at 7:30pm. The Way of the Cross reflected through Mary, with music by the STM Choir

THUR 3/28 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm in the Church. This mass is always followed by the Solemn Procession to the Altar of Repose. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Repository will be available until 10:00pm

HOLY WEEK

AT ST THOMAS MORE

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

FRI 3/29 GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Stations of the Cross at 12:00pm

Stations of the Cross for Young People at 1:30pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death at 3:00pm in the Church

Tenebrae at 7:30pm in the Church. A presentation of the Lord's Passion with neotraditional Chant

SAT 3/30 HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Blessing of the Easter Food at 10:00am in Walden Hall

*NO 5:00pm MASS

Mass of the Easter Vigil at 7:30pm in the Church

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2024
ST. THOMAS MORE

Fasting & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

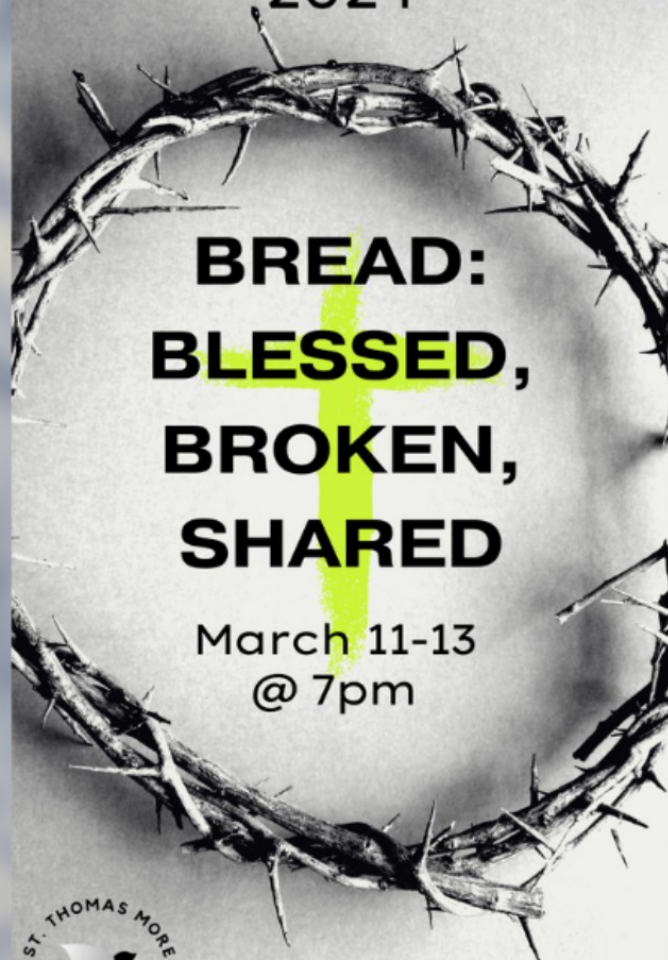
See the guidelines below!

- Fasting is obligatory for ages 18-59 inclusive.
- Fasting constitutes no more than one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are less than a full meal.
- Abstinence is obligatory for all Catholics aged 14 or older.
- Abstinence is to avoid eating meat (chicken, pork, beef, etc). Fish is allowed.
- Please remember to drink lots of water!



If possible, the fast on Good Friday can be continued until the Easter Vigil as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus and to prepare more fully for his Resurrection.

PARISH RETREAT 2024



**BREAD:
BLESSED,
BROKEN,
SHARED**

March 11-13
@ 7pm



Presented by our local
Capuchin Friars

TENEBRAE

GOOD FRIDAY, 7:30PM

JOIN US FOR A READING OF
THE LORD'S PASSION WITH
NEOTRADITIONAL CHANTING

LED BY DEACON MATT
COMPOSED BY ALEX WHITE
SUNG BY NOELLE WHITE



Easter Weekend

7:30PM (SAT)
8:00AM (SUN)
9:30AM (SUN)
11:30AM (SUN)



HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN.



LENTEN SCHEDULE 2024
† ST. THOMAS MORE †



St. Thomas More Lenten Project

This year's Lenten Project will support ***Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center*** on Long Island

ADRC is a Long Island nonprofit providing resources and support for those impacted by cognitive decline.

ADRC's mission is to provide care, support, and educational programs for families in need, and to be advocates for local families who are coping with Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias.

By offering life-enrichment activities, ADRC helps those with cognitive decline express themselves and their creativity. Programs offered include Art, Music, Equine, Memory Cafes, Museum Programs, and much more. Participants and caregivers enjoy activities together, creating new memories.

ADRC provides care consultations, information & referrals, education, support groups, therapy programs for caregivers and their loved ones. They provide educational training to professional healthcare workers, graduate students, and other organizations throughout Long Island.

Please see more information about ADRC and their services and supports on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Any donation will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to St. Thomas More and placed in the little house by the bulletin board, placed in the collection basket, or dropped off at the Rectory. Please note "Lenten Project" in the memo line.

BREAD: BLESSED, BROKEN, & SHARED

The 2024 St. Thomas
More Lenten Mission,
presented by our local
Capuchin Friars

DAY 1

The First Passover to
The Passover of Jesus
with Fr. Henry Richard Vas



DAY 2

Jesus The Passover:
Eucharist
with Fr. Norbert D'Souza



DAY 3

The Church:
A Celebration of Passover
with Fr. Joseph Francis



The Eucharist is “the source and summit” of the Christian life (ccc 1324-1327). Jesus Christ invited us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the gateway key to the civilization of love that we long to create. It begins at the heart of Jesus and embraces every heart

MARCH 11TH-13TH
7PM IN THE CHURCH

“Learn from me, for
I am meek and
humble of heart.”

KNIGHT'S OF COLOMBUS

Msgr. Francis S. Midura Council 6062

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER!

Saturday, March 16th at 6:00pm
(following the 5pm mass)

**Tickets are \$20
per person**

Sold at all masses, ending March 10th

Contact Ed Rogan PGK with questions at
631-366-1085 or email **eroganjr@verizon.net**

NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

Holy Hour *"Take Up Your Cross"*

Tuesday, March 5th at 7:00pm

**Adoration & Benediction
led by Deacon Matt!**



**Contemporary music
by Alex and Noelle!**

"And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

Mark 8:34-35

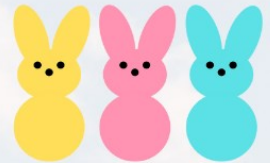
****PLEASE PROVIDE DONATIONS BY MARCH 10TH****

EASTER OUTREACH

EASTER DINNER

Please help us provide Easter Dinner for those in need in our neighborhood and town of Hauppauge by donating the following:

Potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables, fruit, desserts, coffee, tea and/or grocery gift cards of \$25 for meat.



EASTER BASKETS

In addition to Easter Dinner, Outreach provides candy baskets to our families. To keep our baskets consistent, we ask that you include some/all of the following:

Chocolate bunny/eggs/cross, marshmallow peeps, jelly beans, mini eggs, snack packs, cookie packs



Youth Group - War and Peace

February 25th, 2023



We learned what a Just War is and which wars in history were Just Wars.

We also learned and know that Jesus was a radical Pacifist, he did not try to escape or fight against even those killing him.



Upcoming Meetings
Sundays 12:30-2:30

March 3rd-
Lent Check-In

March 10th-
Surrender to God

Follow us on
Instagram!

@stm_yg

@stm_church