

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

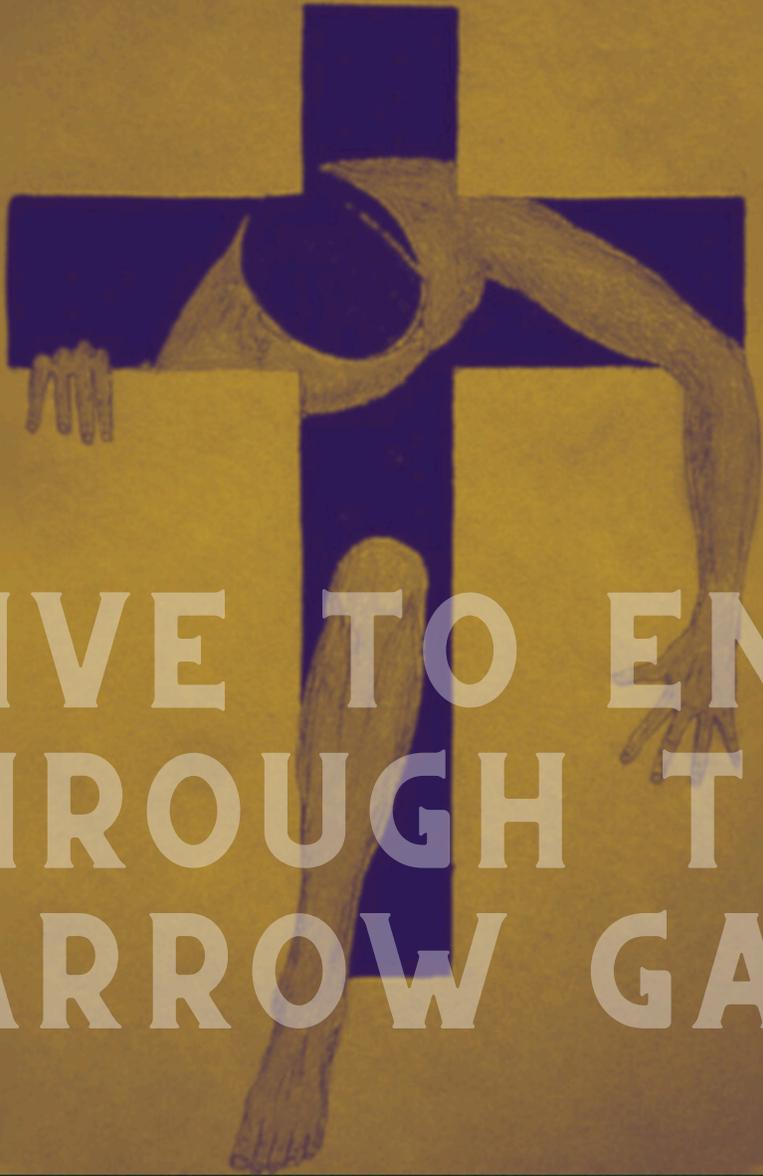
Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

www.stmli.org | (631) 234-5551

August 24<sup>th</sup> 2025



# STRIVE TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE

### This Week's Readings

Isaiah 66:18-21

Psalm 117:1,2

Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

Luke 13:22-30

# 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Religious Ed

631-234-0397 (call)

reled@stmli.org (email)

## Rectory

631-234-5551 (call)

631-213-6882 (text)

rectory@stmli.org (email)

## Outreach

631-234-3149 (call)

outreach@stmli.org (email)

# This Week's Masses

## Saturday, August 23rd

5:00pm Jaime Rodriguez Jr.  
Edward & Lillian Terriault

## Sunday, August 24th

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Daniel O'Connor

9:30am Patricia Kulesa  
Ana Cecilia & Cirilo DeJesus  
Castro

11:30am Carl Nigro  
Bill & Lori Rudden (60yrs)

## Monday, August 25th

9:00am Rosemarie Campo

## Tuesday, August 26th

9:00am Marc Matto

## Wednesday, August 27th

9:00am Mary Loth

## Thursday, August 28th

9:00am Ruthann McDonald

## Friday, August 29th

9:00am Deacon Al Pankus

## Saturday, August 30th

5:00pm Joseph Barrett  
Matthew Phelan

## Sunday, August 31st

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Salvatore Caliendo

9:30am Anthony Giambruno  
Gene Launier

11:30am Chester Kalenty  
Shannon O'Brien



## 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.

## Saints of the Week

St. Rose of Lima (8/23)  
St. Bartholomew the Apostle (8/24)  
St. Louis (8/25)  
St. Joseph of Calasanz (8/25)  
St. Monica (8/27)  
St. Augustine of Hippo (8/28)

Saints in heaven, pray for us

## Prepare for Next Weekend

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 31<sup>st</sup> 2025

### Readings

Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29

Psalm 68:4-5,6-7,10-11

Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24a

Luke 14:1,7-14

### Focus Questions

- 1: Relate a time when you chose the lowest place at the table.
- 2: Is it hard to give generously without repayment?
- 3: How can you "take the lowest place" in your daily life?

### Gospel of Luke (14:1,7-14)

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

our  
*daily bread*

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



# From the Pastor

My **mother-in-law sent me two sweaters for Christmas**. When she came for a visit, I put on one of the sweaters. The first thing she said was, “What’s the matter? Didn’t you like the other one?” Wearing one would not mean the other is disliked. When one of the two sweaters is worn, the other is waiting to be worn and not discarded.

Every religion or **every path of experiencing God within a religion is just a starting point**. We start somewhere in order to reach the perfect union with God at the end in Heaven. If God is the goal then every religion, in its perfect or imperfect, way becomes a path leading to eternal living with God. When a religious person follows what they learnt from their religion to live a Godly life, it does not mean that person has to discard what other the religion has to offer. God is bigger than anything religion can offer.

In today’s first reading, **Isaiah envisions that all the paths of different religions lead to a similar experience of God** in the Holy Mountain in Jerusalem. God living in the temple of Jerusalem is not bound territorially, but as Isaiah envisions, the nations “that have never heard of my fame, or seen my glory;” will come to Jerusalem as brothers and sisters bringing “offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots, in carts, upon mules and dromedaries, to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their offering to the house of the LORD in clean vessels and they shall proclaim my glory among the nations.” God welcomes all, and extends God’s grace to all beyond the boundaries of religion, nations and races.

In the Gospel, when the **disciples doubt that all might not have chance for salvation**, Jesus begins to explain that salvation is the work of God among humans. God works with all the people. God is not partial. God opens the door for all. Salvation is nothing but the humble acceptance of what God offers to us humans. Salvation is a free gift from God and not merely the reward for the good works that we have done.

Our good works are not money by which we buy our salvation. **Good works are merely our cooperation with God to work in us**. As Mary, our Blessed Mother proclaims in her Song of Thanksgiving, Magnificat, “All generations will call me Blessed for The Almighty has done great things for us.” Salvation is just to allow ourselves to be at the service of God as Mary did, “Behold I am your Handmaid; May it be done according to your Word.” Let us imitate Mary and pray through her intercession to allow the work of God to happen in us.

A kind reminder and warm invitation to all for our **Annual Beach Mass and Picnic, on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>** at Otto Schubert Beach, Nissequogue. All are welcome. Mass starts at noon and a picnic follows. Please bring lunch and spend some social time after the Mass at the beach. The Knights of Columbus will keep the grill hot and ready to help those who want to barbecue their food.

With love and prayers,  
Father Antony



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## Our Staff

### Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)  
theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (finance)  
finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations)  
rectory@stmli.org

### Clergy

Father Antony Asir, Pastor  
pastor@stmli.org

Matthew T.J. Surico, Deacon  
deacon.matt@stmli.org

Edward Vigneaux, Deacon (Ret)  
Robert D. Weisz, Deacon (Ret)

### Religious Ed

Mary Ellen Carrol, DRE  
maryellen@stmli.org

Linda Ronning  
reled@stmli.org

### Youth Ministry

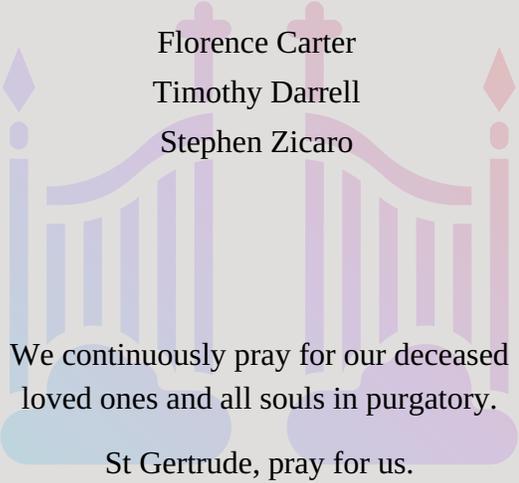
Noelle White  
youthgroup@stmli.org

### Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director  
(631) 724-8820

# Prayers & Petitions

## Pray for the Deceased



Florence Carter  
Timothy Darrell  
Stephen Zicaro

We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones and all souls in purgatory.

St Gertrude, pray for us.

## Pray for the Sick

Ana Beltrani  
Andrew Valentine  
Angela Mingione  
Angelina Tolentino  
Ann Russo  
Barbara Cappisillo  
Barbara Foberg  
Carmen Z Fontes  
Christopher Conley  
Christy Torkelsen  
Codie Codispoti  
Diane McCann  
Ellen Murphy

Fortunata Feliciano  
Grace Harold  
Jo Garvey  
John Ianno  
John Zuzzolo  
Joseph Barrett  
Joseph Tuffarelli  
Kayla & Nora  
Larry Wilson  
Linda Heller  
Lori Rooney  
Lorraine White  
Marge McGowan

Maria U Aldaba  
Maria Andria  
Mary Leister  
MaryAnn Landi  
Maryann Maccone  
Michael Leocadi  
Michael Minutillo  
Noah Simonetti  
Nunzio Puleo  
Peter Cappisillo  
Raymond Larsen  
Richard Landi  
Rosalie Malerba

\*This listing will reset on September 30th, 2025

To add a name to the sick list, please fill out a card from the literature rack place it in the collection basket, or contact the Rectory by phone or email.

## Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

August 25<sup>th</sup> - August 31<sup>st</sup>

In memory of

Frank Zembrzycki

by Barbara & Steve Zembrzycki

Contact the Rectory to arrange a memorial for the Altar Bread & Wine. Requested donation for the week is \$50

## Pray for our Clergy

Father Antony Asir  
Deacon Robert Weisz  
Deacon Edward Vigneaux  
Deacon Matthew Surico  
The Capuchin Friars  
Bishop John Barres  
Pope Leo XIV

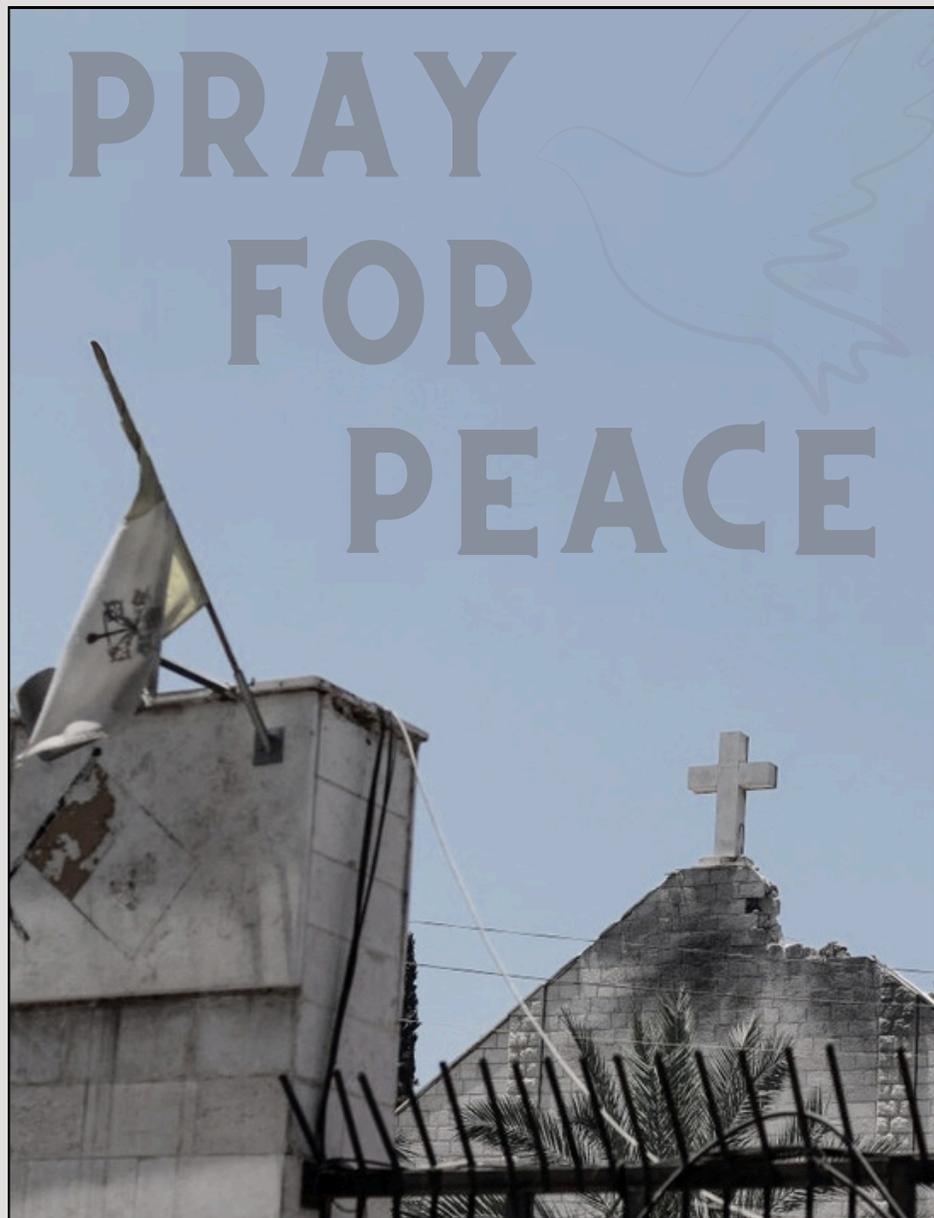
## Pray for our Military

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
Ryan Smith	Alexandria Feys Gajda
Will Maley	Andrew Lynch
Chris Capasso	

We also pray for our deceased service members, and for our veterans, in gratitude for their service, and in hope that they will find the support they need here at home.



# Support our Parish

## Financial Support

Collection from:  
August 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

# \$6092

Please consider supporting St. Thomas More. We encourage all parishioners to try electronic giving through Faith Direct. It is both convenient and secure. For more information on Faith Direct, check the literature rack in the Narthex, or visit us online at [stmli.org](http://stmli.org)

## Physical Support

There are many different ways to support the St. Thomas More Parish Community! Whether you are 4 or 40, 8 or 80, there are ways for everyone to be involved.

### Eucharistic Ministers

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

### Parish Outreach

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

### Pastoral Council

Joe Fratamico  
[bjfrat1@gmail.com](mailto:bjfrat1@gmail.com)

### Altar Servers

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

### 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

Whether giving money, time, or labor, all your support is appreciated. St. Thomas More would not exist as it does without the generosity of our Parish Family.

### A Gentle Reminder:

Please do not place clothing or household items in the food bins or leave them at Outreach. We do not have a lot of extra storage space. Please call the Outreach office and one of our volunteers can determine if we have a family that could use your donation, or direct you to another place where you can donate.

## Parish Social Ministry

“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;  
but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

### Contact Parish Outreach

631-234-3149

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

Mon-Thur 10AM to 2PM

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.

### Who you helped in August:

61 families, including...  
139 children  
99 adults

God Bless you for your generosity!

### OUR NEEDS THIS WEEK...

Boxed Milk

Cookies

Cereal

Drinks

Soup

Jelly

Tuna

Shampoo

Toothpaste

Hand Soap

Paper Towels

Laundry Detergent

### 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.



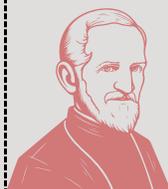
## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to "strive to enter through the narrow gate." Our call to be disciples and to follow Jesus demands that we learn to live for the sake of others.

Your generosity enables us to help those in need and we, and they, are most grateful.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: our next fundraising event will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> - Military Bridge - back by popular demand!

Please reach out with any questions.  
Contact us: call 631-648-2760 or  
[email svdp.stm@aol.com](mailto:svdp.stm@aol.com)



# This & That

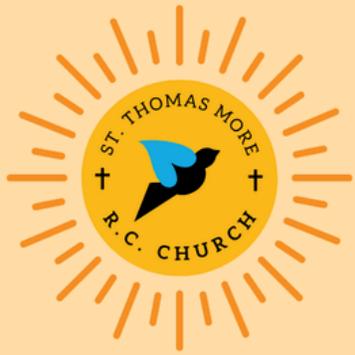
With  
Deacon Matt



In July and August, as he has done for the past six summers, Deacon Matt will be making time to visit with small groups of parishioners in the home. Do you have questions about our faith? Do you find it difficult to follow teachings of the Church in this day and age? Are there issues you'd like to discuss, or suggestions you'd like to make? The floor is yours! Deacon Matt will be the facilitator. The format is simple: find around 6-10 people to gather at your home on a specific date, serve dessert, and come with your questions/topics.

Deacon Matt is especially interested in hearing the voices of the young. So teenagers and young adults are most certainly encouraged to get a group together! In general, late afternoons/early evenings during the week, and possibly Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings, are available.

To discuss a specific date, you can send an email to [deacon.matt@stmli.org](mailto:deacon.matt@stmli.org) or leave a message at the rectory.



St. Thomas More Annual

# BEACH MASS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

 **Mass is at 12:00pm on the beach!**  
**Otto Schubert Beach, Nissequogue** 

**Please bring lunch  
to enjoy in the picnic  
area after mass!**

**There will be grills available if you  
want to barbecue! The Knights will  
keep them hot and ready.**





# E-Giving News

Our current e-giving platform is changing its name!  
Faith Direct is becoming unified under the *Ministry Brands* umbrella and will be known as ParishSoft Giving

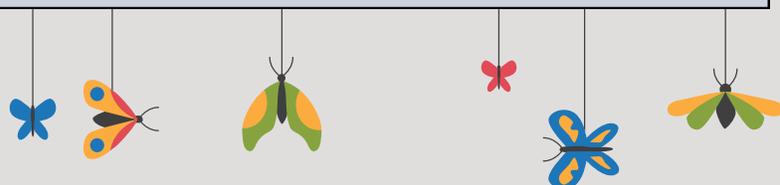


Some minor (but helpful!) changes:

Weekly Donations...will now be paid weekly, not per month  
Donations can be scheduled for any day, not just the 4<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>  
Donations can be made with Google Pay, Apple Pay, Venmo, or PayPal

We encourage all parishioners to consider signing up for e-giving. Donating online is safe and secure, and allows you on demand access to your tax information and giving history.

More information and instructions to sign up can be found on the literature rack in the Narthex.



## BANNS OF *Marriage*

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

SHANNON TAKACH  
St. Thomas More  
Hauppauge



KEVIN TAKACH  
St. Thomas More  
Hauppauge



NEXT MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 12TH  
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS  
WELCOME!

CALL ANNA  
631-234-0714

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

We celebrate the Feast of the Queen of Heaven on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to coincide with which other celebration?

- a: Feast of the Ascension
- b: Feast of the Assumption
- c: Transfiguration Sunday
- d: Feast of the Annunciation



Answer: B (Feast of the Assumption)  
Originally celebrated on May 31<sup>st</sup>, at the end of her month, Pope Paul VI moved it to be celebrated at the end of the Octave of the Assumption!

# OUR LADY

# QUEEN OF PEACE

# ادعو لنا

# молися за нас





## PARISH OUTREACH: SCHOOL GIFT CARD DRIVE

In lieu of collecting school supplies this year, Outreach has decided to collect \$25 Walmart cards for our families to purchase a new outfit for school, new sneakers, or whatever else they may need.

There are many community resources available for our families to get school supplies and we feel this will be a better opportunity for them to get what they need.

Many of our clients have specifically asked for Walmart cards, as they feel they can get more for their money.



Thank you in advance for your donation!  
Please remember you can leave your donation in the collection basket, or drop them off at Outreach or the Rectory.

PLEASE CALL OUTREACH AT 631-234-3149 WITH ANY QUESTIONS

# GOLF RAFFLE



1 for \$10  
3 for \$20  
9 for \$50



**TICKETS AVAILABLE AFTER ALL MASSES OR AT THE RECTORY!**

**NOW  
WITH  
BIGGER  
PAYOUTS!**

**1st: \$1250  
2nd: \$750  
3rd: \$500**



**STM MSGR FRANCIS S. MIDURA MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING**

# St. Thomas More Choir

Have you ever felt the joy of singing from your heart? Imagine raising your voice in harmony with others, filling the church with heavenly music, and being part of something truly special

Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or simply love to sing, we welcome you! No formal training is required—just a love for music and a desire to be part of a beautiful tradition. Every voice matters, and together we create something magical that touches hearts and souls at every Mass.

## Why join?

**Make a Joyful Noise:** Use your gift of music to glorify God

**Build Community:** Connect with fellow parishioners in a fun, welcoming environment

**Lift Spirits:** Help lead worship and inspire others through song.

## When?

Children

**Rehearsal:** Thursdays 5:30-6:30

**Mass:** Sundays 9:30

Adults

**Rehearsal:** Thursdays 7-8:30

**Mass:** Sundays 11:30

# St. Thomas More / Msgr. Francis S. Midura

## Annual Golf Outing

9/15/25 at Smithtown Landing CC 9:00 AM shotgun start



### Registration Form (Please Print)

Golfers:	Name	Contact Number	Email
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

Please fill out a separate form for each Foursome. Singles or Twosomes will be paired with other golfers.

Include a check for

\$200.00 per golfer after August 15th

Checks made out to: St. Thomas More Parish

Outing Day Check-In begins at **7:30 AM** with coffee and donuts.

**Dinner Only Patrons:** Please include a check for **\$100.00** per person made out to St. Thomas More Parish

	Name	Contact Number	Email
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

Return Form in envelope provided by mail or drop off at Church.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?  
**YOU'RE INVITED TO TRY ALPHA AT STM**  
EXPLORE LIFE...FAITH...MEANING

ALPHA is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal setting. You will be able to explore life's biggest questions. You will take yourself on a journey which many times leads to a personal encounter with Jesus. You are able to ask questions, share ideas, build friendships, and experience the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We gather once a week and have our meeting at St. Thomas More in the white room. We set up in small groups of about 8 to 10 people per table and start with a nice dinner and dessert with your group. Then we watch a video that features inspiring stories and interviews from all around the world followed by discussions with your group. Each week our talks will look at a different question about faith.

If you are not comfortable talking in a group, don't worry. Just listen and you will be surprised what you take home and think about. You may even find yourself inspired to share your experiences and knowledge the following week.

**So come try ALPHA! It's free, you'll have good food, thought provoking conversation with people and our guarantee to be finished in 2 hours each week.**

**If you have questions or would like to sign up, please call 631-234-0397 or email us at [jmtwhite@optonline.net](mailto:jmtwhite@optonline.net)**

**We hope to see you all there!**



JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T

28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 1

# Calendar Club 2025

## Congratulations to our July winners!

Future winners will be posted monthly in the bulletin!

July 1	\$25	1378	Elaine Liberti
July 2	\$25	1836	Paul & Mary Ann Gruner
July 3	\$25	1596	Theresa Lilly
July 4	\$25	1704	Ken & Lynn Goodwin
July 5	\$25	1817	Christian Castellano
July 6	<b>\$50</b>	1635	Ashley & Daniel Bathke
July 7	\$25	1548	Vincent Murray
July 8	\$25	274	Diane & Steve Phelan
July 9	\$25	201	Jacqueline Garziano
July 10	\$25	1444	Marty & Ginny Carrano
July 11	\$25	8	Teresa Ferraro
July 12	\$25	249	Bruce & Joan Cameron
July 13	<b>\$50</b>	1608	Pat Lewis
July 14	\$25	630	Joan Murphy
July 15	\$25	1440	Lorraine Toomey
July 16	\$25	1210	Don Cleary
July 17	\$25	1367	Colleen & Gary Connors
July 18	\$25	1919	Joseph & Eileen Petre
July 19	\$25	1420	Allison Madison
July 20	<b>\$50</b>	393	Joanne Alois
July 21	\$25	398	David Holdorf
July 22	\$25	1511	Greg Napolitano
July 23	\$25	1305	Emma Tjersland
July 24	\$25	304	Karen Sellitto
July 25	\$25	63	Christian Castellano
July 26	\$25	1501	Frank & Eileen Stuart
July 27	<b>\$50</b>	1536	Ann Russell
July 28	\$25	1612	Vincent Murray
July 29	\$25	969	Patrick & Susan Dennehy
July 30	\$25	1276	The Capece Family
July 31	\$25	826	Mary Ellen Skrzypek

OCTOBER

DECEMBER

T W T F S S M T W T

27 28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 1

JANUARY

MARCH

T W T F S S M T W T

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 1 2

APRIL

JUNE

T W T F S S M T W T

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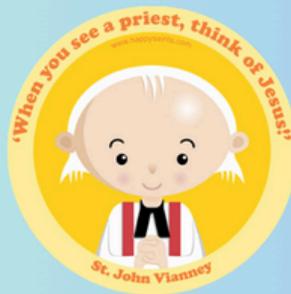
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# Saints of August



Feast Day: August 1st  
 Doctor of the Church  
 Bishop of Sant'Agata de' Goti  
 Patron: Arthritis, Lawyers, Confessors

Founded the Redemptorists (religious order), educated as a lawyer. Considered one of the most widely read Catholic Authors



Feast Day: August 4th  
 Priest and Confessor  
 Known as "Cure d'Ars"  
 Patron: Parish Priests

Known for his radical spiritual transformation of the community in Ars, ardent devotee of BVM. Often spent 12-16 hrs hearing confessions



Feast Day: August 8th  
 Priest  
 Founder: Dominican Order  
 Patron: Astronomers, Natural Science

Sold his clothes and books to feed the hungry during famine. BVM gave him a rosary in a vision, his order promulgated the form of prayer.



Feast Day: August 10th  
 Deacon and Martyr  
 First Archdeacon of Rome  
 Patron: Archivists, Librarians

Distributed riches of Church to the poor, rather than turn them over to Roman Empire. Baptized fellow prisoners after arrest.



Feast Day: August 11th  
 Virgin  
 Founder: Order of Poor Ladies  
 Patron: Eye Disease

One of the first followers of Francis of Assisi, professed she would have no husband but Jesus Christ. Fought to keep her order's vows of poverty.



Feast Day: August 14th  
 Priest and Martyr  
 Conventual Franciscan Friar  
 Patron: Prisoners, Journalists

Polish priest, turned his monastery into a hospital during WWII. Was sent to Auschwitz, where he volunteered to die in place of another.



Feast Day: August 21st  
 Pope and Traditionalist  
 Bishop of Rome  
 Patron: First Communicants

Pope from 1903 to 1914. Promoted daily eucharist, and lowered the age for First Communion. Staunchly opposed to modernist philosophies.



Feast Day: August 24th  
 Apostle and Martyr  
 aka Nathaniel  
 Patron: Bookbinders

Reportedly went on mission to India, where he left the Gospel of Matthew. Continued to Armenia with Jude (Thaddeus) where he was martyred,



Feast Day: August 28th  
 Doctor of the Church  
 Bishop of Hippo Regius  
 Patron: Brewers, Theologians

Considered an eminent early Church Father by Catholics and Protestants. Heavily influenced Western Christianity, help develop the just war theory.

# Holy Hour

## "Ora et Labora"

Contemporary  
music by Alex &  
Noelle White!



Adoration and  
Benediction led  
by Deacon Matt!

**Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:00pm**

*Word, Music, and Silent Prayer*

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Colossians 3:23-24