

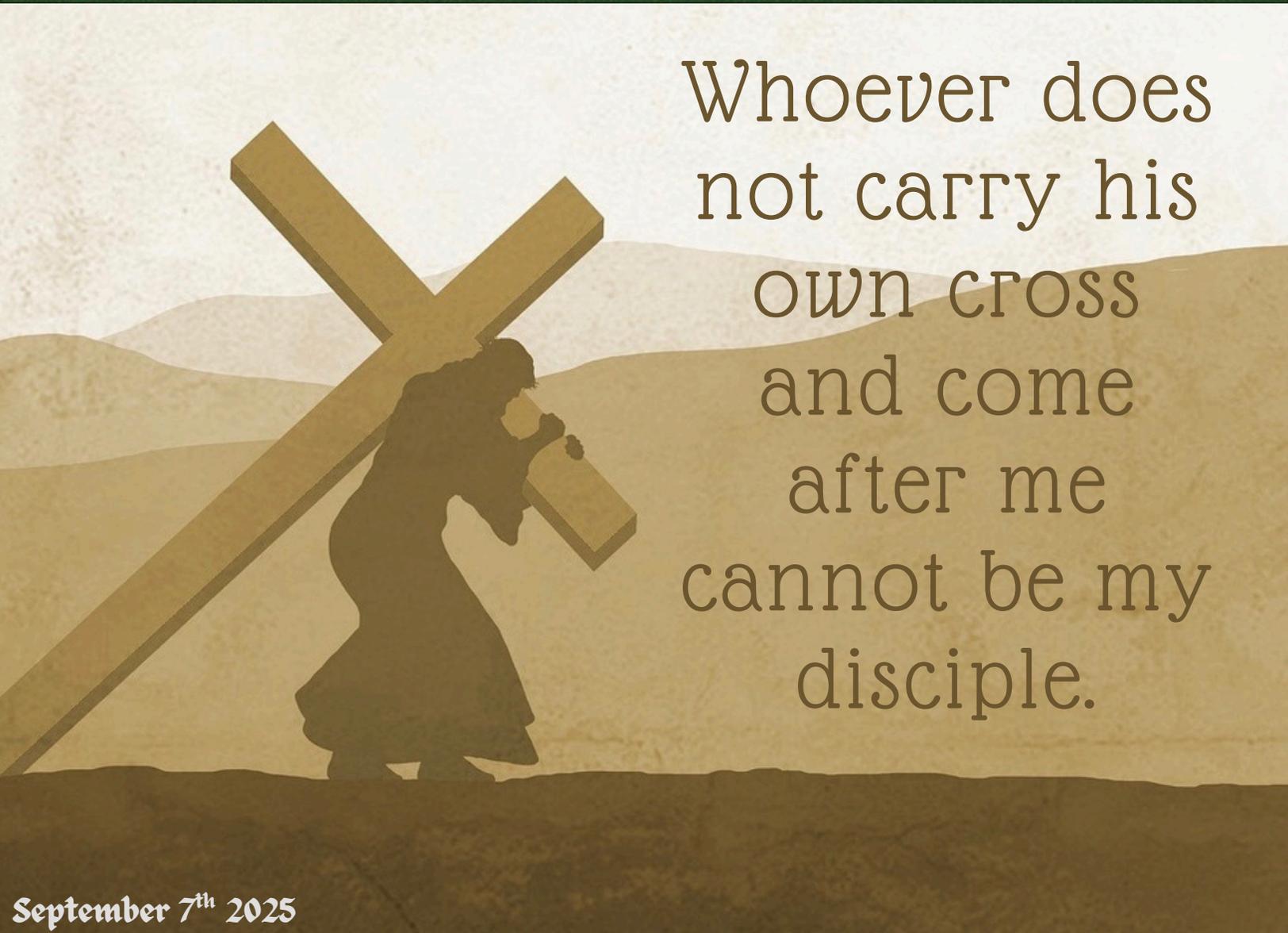
Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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



Whoever does
not carry his
own cross
and come
after me
cannot be my
disciple.

September 7th 2025

This Week's Readings

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Psalm 90:3-6,12-14,17

Philemon 9-10,12-17

Luke 14:25-33

23rd 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, September 6th

5:00pm Margaret Mary Sheehan
Cheri Graf Johnston

Sunday, September 7th

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am William Eyring

9:30am Anthony Giambruno
Marie Giovanna Boyd

11:30am Lauren Weiler
Marie Gragnaniello

Monday, September 8th

9:00am Daniel Buynak

Tuesday, September 9th

9:00am Joan & Emiddio Ippolito

Wednesday, September 10th

9:00am Angelo Nichola Manzi

Thursday, September 11th

9:00am Albert Vatour

Friday, September 12th

9:00am Lauren Elizabeth Fontanetta

Saturday, September 13th

5:00pm John Reddy
Mary Magnifico

Sunday, September 14th

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00am Ralph Molinaro
Michael Dumenko Jr.

9:30am Arputha Mary Asir
Patricia Kulesa

11:30am Linda Dowling
Brian Ahearns



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

Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary (9/8)

St. Peter Claver (9/9)

Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary (9/12)

St. John Chrysostom (9/13)

Exaltation of the Holy Cross (9/14)

Our Lady of Sorrows (9/15)

Saints in heaven, pray for us

Prepare for Next Weekend

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14th 2025

Readings

Numbers 21:4b-9

Psalms 78:1bc-2,34-38

Philippians 2:6-11

John 3:13-17

Focus Questions

1: Describe a time when you really needed to hear the words of Jesus about God's love.

2: This Sunday is the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Where do you display a cross as a sign of your faith?

3: What does the cross mean to you?

Families: Spend some time talking about how much God loves you.

Gospel of John (3:13-17)

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.

And 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.



our
daily bread

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



From the Pastor

Customer: **I've come back to buy that television I was looking at yesterday.**

Salesman: That's good. May I ask what was the one dominating thing that made you want this set?

Customer: My wife.

In today's Gospel **Jesus is like the salesman, asking us the question**, "what is that one important thing that we want to have at the cost of setting aside even our parents, family and our own self?" Or we may ask Jesus if there can be anything at all to be chosen at the cost of losing our own parents, family, and our own dear self. Jesus responds "Yes, it is following me as my disciple." Following Jesus as his disciple is very costly. The true follower is required to pay the very high price of his family, and more so his very self.

In Jesus' words **'following' or 'to be his disciple' means a total commitment**. Following Jesus makes the disciple no longer live just for themselves. As Paul would say, 'It is not the follower that lives but the Master (Jesus) who lives in them. When one totally gives and fully mingles with Jesus, then that union with Jesus would reshape all their views and values of life. It is no more the disciple, but Jesus in the disciple becomes the measure of life.

The followers of Jesus **no longer use their own scale of evaluation, but that of Jesus**. God's standard is their standard. They interpret and understand the reality and the relationship not in the usual human way, but in Jesus' way. So, when Jesus says, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple". He not only expects but demands a radical commitment from His followers. He wants the disciples to view and evaluate every relationship of a person including their relationship to personal self in the light of his commitment. Unless the follower denies the regular and human way of viewing and valuing the reality, and rises to the way of Jesus, their commitment and following would not be a complete one.

Jesus follows with **two examples to explain this radical commitment**. The first is about a person who plans to build a tower and how that person commits to complete what they have begun. No one will begin to build the tower if they are not able to complete it. The second is about the king who has to wage war. No king would begin a war or would meet a powerful enemy with an aim to lose the war or to be killed by the enemy. Preparation and commitment are necessary before engaging in a mission. So too the followers of Jesus have to seriously think about what they are committing themselves to.

Saint Mother Teresa explains this radical commitment in simpler terms. "Let Jesus see with your eyes, speak with your tongue, work with your hands, walk with your feet, think with your head, and love with your heart. Is this not perfect union, a continual loving prayer? Christ must be able to live His life fully in us." Let us pray that God opens our eyes to see as Jesus sees and commit as Jesus demands.

With love and prayers,
Father Antony



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

Richard M Bounaparte
Albin Haas
Florence Carter
Timothy Darrell

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
Louise Soldo
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

September 8th - September 14th

In memory of

Ralph Molinaro

by Ursula Molinaro

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

Pray for our Clergy

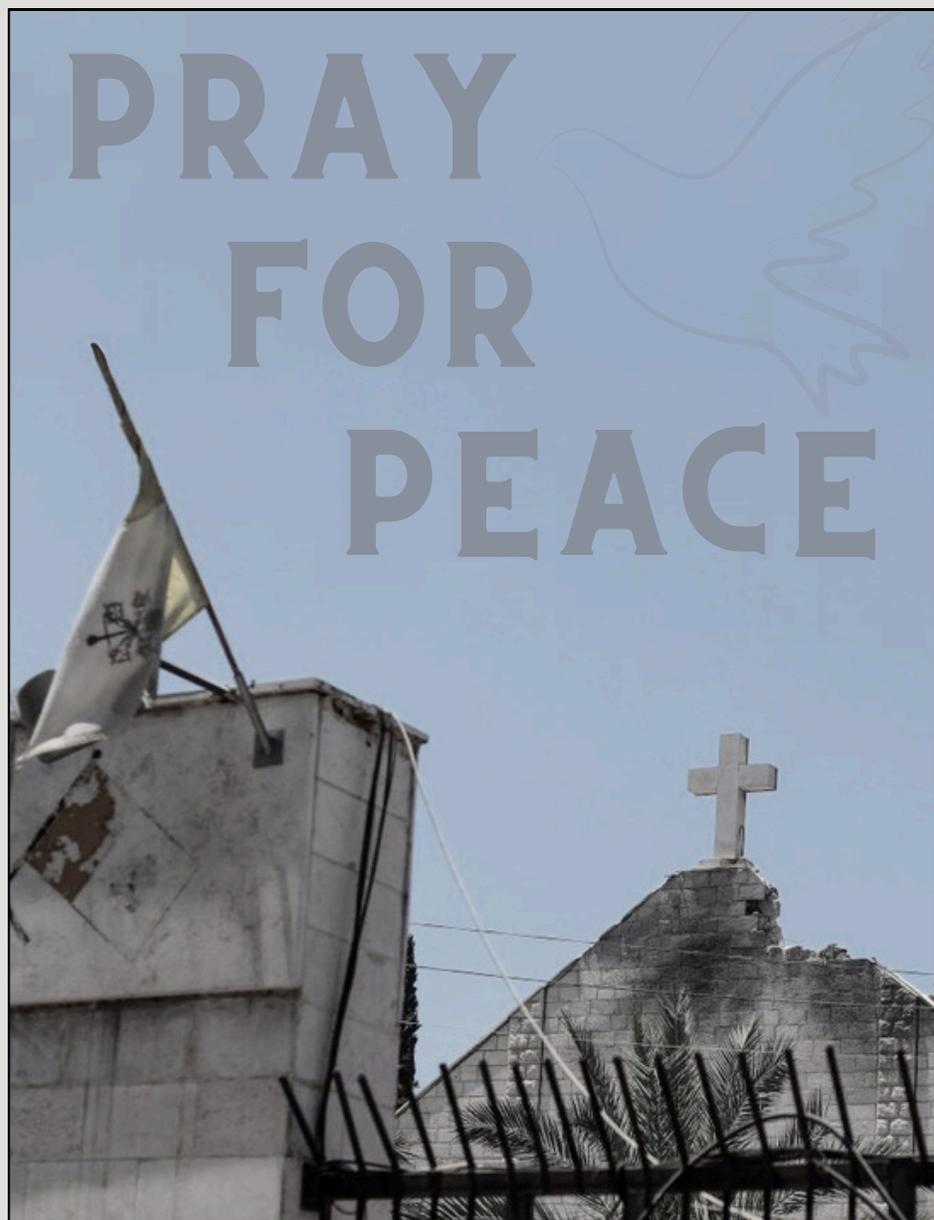
Father Antony Asir
Deacon Robert Weisz
Deacon Edward Vigneaux
Deacon Matthew Surico
The Capuchin Friars
Bishop John Barres
Pope Leo XIV

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 30th & 31st

\$5465

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

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

Parish Outreach

Marti White
outreach@stmli.org

Pastoral Council

Joe Fratamico
bjfrat1@gmail.com

Altar Servers

Deacon Matt
altarservers@stmli.org

Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna
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

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

"God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor".

PSALM 68

Contact Parish Outreach

631-234-3149

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.

August: Your Support

We are so very grateful for the generosity of our St. Thomas More Parish Family. During the month of August we were able to provide food for 61 families!

This includes...

91 children

79 adults

29 seniors

In addition, we distributed back to school gift cards to over 60 children who now have new clothes or shoes to wear to school!

You are truly doing God's work!

OUR NEEDS THIS WEEK...

Boxed Milk

Cookies

Drinks

Jelly

Soup

Cereal

Tuna

Mayo

Mustard

Canned Soup

Shampoo

Toothpaste

Hand Soap

Paper Towels

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.

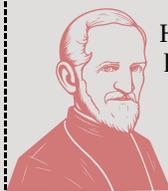
Packages for 2-4 people are ideal.



ST. THOMAS MORE
† PARISH OUTREACH †

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ."



Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

Contact us: call 631-648-2760 or email svdp.stm@aol.com



Baptisms in our church

Congratulations! We were excited to welcome the following children into the Catholic Church during their recent baptisms:

Peighton Marie Bathke
child of Kristi & Michael

Ryleigh Vera & Delaney Ann
Woolf
children of Kathleen & Michael

New child? Expecting?
Contact the Rectory to learn more
about the sacrament of Baptism!



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 4th or 15th
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

FIRST & SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

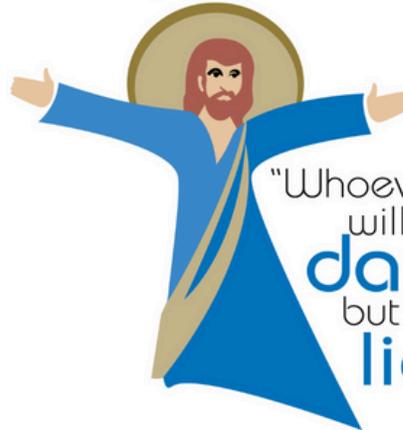
CRISTINA BRUNO
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



MATTHEW PUZO
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



Have you been called by Name?



"Whoever follows me
will **never** walk in
darkness,
but will have the
light of life."

JOHN 8:12

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 (Order of Christian Initiation in Adults) by calling the rectory at 631-234-5551.

P.E.A.C.E.



Coming Soon: Mass Book 2026



Masses for 2026 will be available starting Tuesday September 16th in the rectory.

Suggested offering is \$20

Please note: there are still 46 masses available for 2024



NEXT MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 12TH

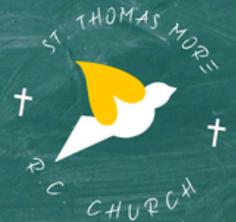
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS
WELCOME!

CALL ANNA
631-234-0714

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

On September 8th, we celebrate the Nativity of Mary. For which other Saint do we celebrate their Nativity?

- a: St. Joseph
- b: St. John the Baptist
- c: St. Joachim
- d: St. John the Evangelist



Answer: B (St. John the Baptist)

We celebrate the Nativity of these two saints because they alone among the saints were holy at their birth. We also celebrate John the Baptist's beheading (see last week's Question of the Week).

OUR LADY
QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعو لنا

молися за нас

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

**We hope to see you all there at our first meeting on
September 15th, 2025!**

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Thomas More R.C. Church

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Time: 1:30pm - 7:30pm

**Place: 115 Kings Highway
Hauppauge, Walden Hall**



**For medical eligibility questions, please call
1-800-688-0900 Monday – Friday (9am – 5pm).**

*Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.
To make an appointment please scan the QR code above.
Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.*