

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

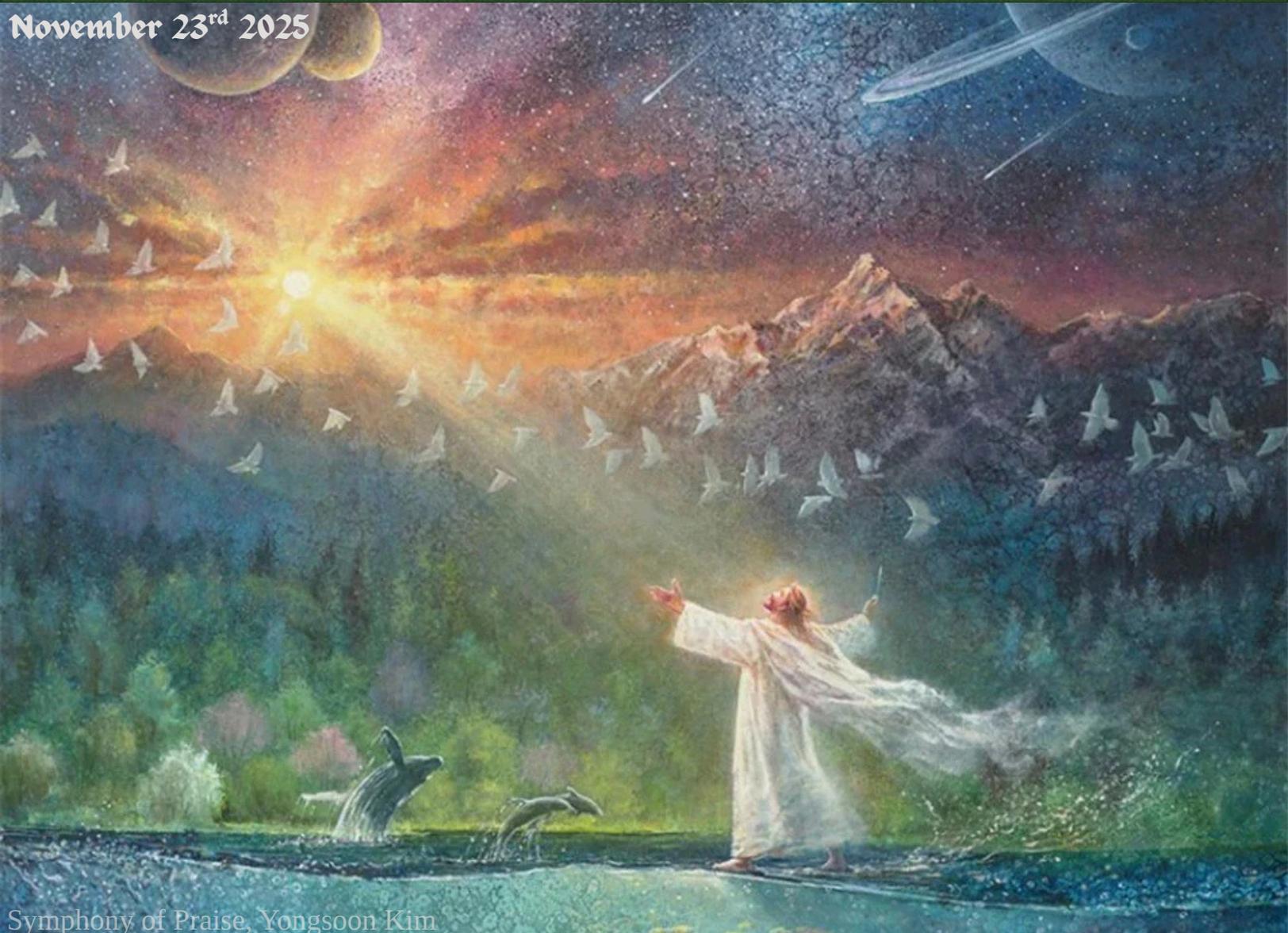
Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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

November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025



Symphony of Praise, Yongsoon Kim

### This Week's Readings

2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalms 122:1-5

Colossians 1:12-20

Luke 23:35-43

# Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## 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, November 22nd

5:00pm Albin Haas  
Deceased of the Merget &  
Pondt Families

## Sunday, November 23rd

*Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*

8:00am Marge Wolejsza

9:30am Joseph Santora

11:30am Steve Kallman  
Stephanie Barry

## Monday, November 24th

9:00am Ana Cicilia & Cirilo  
DeJesus Castro

## Tuesday, November 25th

9:00am Juanita Williams

## Wednesday, November 26th

9:00am Nicholas Conzo

## Thursday, November 27th

9:00am Marie Weinberger

## Friday, November 28th

9:00am Allison Lynn Roskos

## Saturday, November 29th

5:00pm The People of the Parish

## Sunday, November 30th

*First Sunday of Advent*

8:00am Christine Brucculeri

9:30am Richard Allen Haas

11:30am Marie Gagniello  
Charlie Kirk



## 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. Cecilia (11/22)  
St. Clement I (11/23)  
St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions (11/24)  
St. Catherine of Alexandria (11/25)  
St. Andrew the Apostle (11/30)

Saints in heaven, *pray for us*

## Prepare for Next Weekend

First Sunday of Advent  
November 30<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122:1-9  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

### Focus Questions

1: How can you be more mindful and patient this Advent?  
2: How can you move to a truer appreciation of the waiting and peace of Advent?  
3: What is your top priority as you get ready for Christmas?  
Families: How can you be more generous in your support of the poor this time of year?

### Gospel of Matthew (24:37-44)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
"As it was in the days of Noah,  
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.  
In those days before the flood,  
they were eating and drinking,  
marrying and giving in marriage,  
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.  
They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.  
So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.  
Two men will be out in the field;  
one will be taken, and one will be left.  
Two women will be grinding at the mill;  
one will be taken, and one will be left.  
Therefore, stay awake!  
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.  
Be sure of this: if the master of the house  
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,  
he would have stayed awake  
and not let his house be broken into.  
So too, you also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

our  
*daily bread*

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



# From the Pastor

Credit Manager: **Do you have any money in the bank?**

Loan Applicant: Certainly.

Credit Manager: How much?

Loan Applicant: I don't know. I haven't shaken it lately.

Have you ever shaken your character-bank to see how rich you are? Have you ever examined yourself to see how precious you are as a person? Have you ever given yourself a quality time to realize your inner worth of being a child of God?

Today is the **Solemn Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. When an earthly King is celebrated, the King's victories, achievements, and glorious moments are proudly proclaimed. But today we are called to claim God's kingship in His Son Jesus' most painful and shameful death on the Cross. Because God's Kingship is not about God's self; rather it is about how God empowers us as God's people.

Today's Gospel scene tells how **Jesus does not save himself by coming down from the Cross as they expected**; but how he saves the repentant criminal to be with him in Paradise. God in Christ rules the world to serve and save His people from destruction. God in Jesus is the King of the universe, as the second reading proclaims, reconciling with the whole universe in order to bring us back to God's richness lost by our sin.

In the first reading we learn how **all the tribes of Israel together accepted David as their God-given King**, saying "And the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander of Israel.'" The King is not simply a political power but people's great consent to claim a person as their leader with Godly qualities. The human King is not a blind authority to rule but a merciful embrace of all the people as God would do. We all accept a person as our leader and ruler by investing our power in this person, only with the hope that the king/leader will administer/serve life to all people in justice and peace providing prosperity and security.

This feast of Christ the King **invites us to realize how we can be empowered by Jesus, our King, Leader and Shepherd**. If we accept to be the subjects of Christ the King, we must become like the repentant criminal who was also hanging on the cross at the side of the crucified Jesus. He subjected himself to enter along with Jesus in His paradise/kingdom pleading "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus right away took him into his Kingdom saying, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Jesus on the cross empowers all the people of His Kingdom that we together with Christ the King allow His paradise/kingdom to happen among us.

**Happy THANKSGIVING DAY:** The spirit of thanksgiving is a liberating spirit. Thanksgiving makes us get out of the world of routine, machine, habit, and the mentality of taking life and relationships for granted. Thanksgiving calls us to see with appreciative eyes, to hear with compassionate ears, to touch with gentleness, to speak kindly and to relate with the spirit of generosity. I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving Day. On Thanksgiving Day, I will raise you all up to the Mercy throne of God in gratitude. I thank you all for having me as your pastor.

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

Barbara Pein

### Youth Ministry

Noelle White  
youthgroup@stmli.org

### Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director  
(631) 724-8820

# Prayers & Petitions

## Pray for the Deceased



Al Weidig  
Alphonse Cruz Manickam  
Frank Latorre  
Antoinette Pepe  
Raymond Marro  
Juana Williams

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

St Gertrude, pray for us.

## Pray for the Sick

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Carol Ann Raucci       | Lou Savarese       |
| Christopher Conley     | Louise Soldo       |
| Christy Torkelsen      | Marge McGowan      |
| Dolores Rudden         | Maria U Aldaba     |
| Ellen Murphy           | Maria Pipia        |
| Baby Emerson Brae Mark | Michael Minutillo  |
| Helen Kovarik          | Nina Busse         |
| Jim Moran              | Noah Simonetti     |
| Jimmy Cannon           | Nunzio Puleo       |
| Joseph Tuffarelli      | Patricia Stronczer |
| Larry Wilson           | Richard Landi      |

\*This listing will reset on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026

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

November 24<sup>th</sup> - November 30<sup>th</sup>



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

## Pray for our Clergy

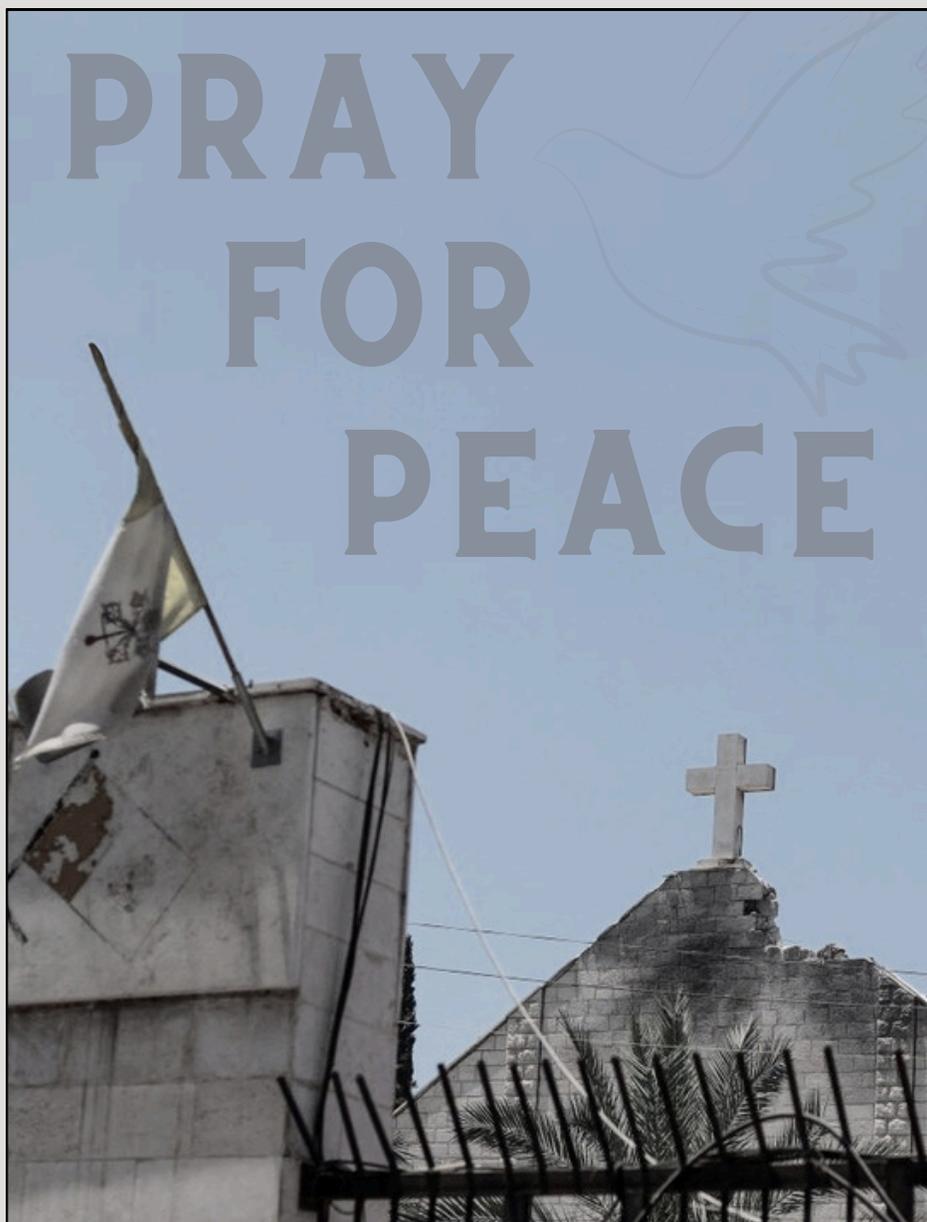
- Father Antony Asir  
Deacon Robert Weisz  
Deacon Edward Vigneaux  
Deacon Matthew Surico  
The Capuchin Friars  
Bishop John Barres  
Pope Leo XIV

## 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:  
November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

# \$6654

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

"It's not about how much you do but about how much love you put into what you do that counts."

SAINT MOTHER TERESA



### 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.

On behalf of the volunteers at Outreach, we send our thanks for all your donations and wish you and your family a very blessed Thanksgiving!

Thank you to all who attended the Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner and donated food to Outreach. You have filled our shelves and helped so many of our neighbors in need!



### WE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOUR DONATIONS!

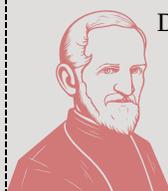
Please remember that it is difficult for us to use large cans, bottles, bags of rice, etc. as many of our neighbors do not have the ability to store extra food. Packages for 2-4 people are ideal.



## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Today as we celebrate Christ the King, may we open the door of our heart so wide that we may listen to the voice of Jesus calling us to help build his kingdom here on earth.

Last week, we reported on our annual report and the amount of money spent to help our neighbors in various ways. Since then, we were asked to fill the oil burner tank of a senior who lives right here in Hauppauge. Your generosity enables us to respond with a YES and we are ever grateful to you.



During this season of Thanksgiving, we wish each and all a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

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

Mack Thomas Sieczkowski  
child of Leeann & Douglas

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

## BANNS OF Marriage

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

DIANA FALCONE  
St. Thomas More  
Hauppauge



DENI YANG  
Dix Hills, NY



## Return of the Precious Blood for Distribution at Mass: Part II

As was announced in last weekend's bulletin and at Masses, our parish will be bringing back the distribution of the Precious Blood to the lay faithful. We are taking this in small steps at a time. For the time being, the Precious Blood will be available from one Cup Minister at the 11:30 am Mass each Sunday, beginning on the First Sunday of Advent (11/30).

It's been a while since we have been able to receive from the Cup, so here are some basic guidelines. Please be considerate to others and do not partake if you have an active cold, the flu, etc. Please blot excessive lipstick. The Cup Minister will present the chalice to you. Take the Cup reverently with two hands, consume a small sip, and then hand the chalice back to the Minister. Make the Sign of the Cross, and then return to your pew.

The single Cup Minister will be stationed near the baptismal font, on the left side of the church as you face the altar. After receiving the Precious Host, if you wish to receive from the Cup, please walk directly from the Bread Minister over to the Cup Minister. It is easiest if you walk in the space behind the stations where the priest and deacon are ministering the Bread and in front of the sanctuary steps.

And remember each of us must make our own decision on whether or not to receive from the Cup.

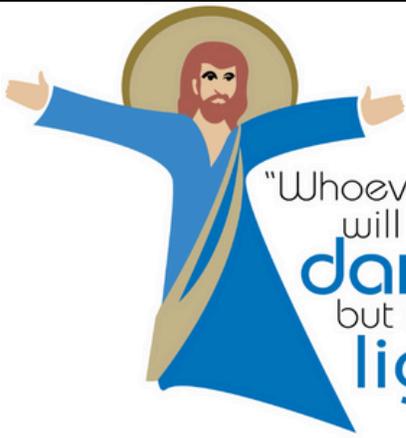
Thank you for your patience as we make adjustments based on the number of persons who decide to partake.

OUR LADY

QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعو لنا

молися за нас



"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.



**NEXT MEETING:**  
DECEMBER 17TH - 12PM  
CHRISTMAS LUNCH @  
VILLA OLIVETTI  
\$42/PP

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME! CALL ANNA  
631-234-0714

## New Hymnals

Next week starts the new liturgical year (an A-II year), which means new copies of the Breaking Bread Missal/Hymnal.

In order to make sure they last a whole year, we kindly ask you return them to the back of the pews when Mass is finished, and that you put them in the **spine side up**.

We thank you for your consideration, and look forward to another beautiful year of liturgy and music!

## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

*Let us come together and celebrate  
this Solemnity, honoring the  
conception of our Blessed Mother  
Mary, free from original sin.*

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
JOIN US FOR MASS

MON DEC 8TH @ 9:00AM  
MON DEC 8TH @ 7:00PM



## THE SEVEN Corporal WORKS OF MERCY

- To feed the hungry
- To give drink to the thirsty
- To clothe the naked
- To shelter the homeless
- To care for the sick
- To visit the imprisoned
- To bury the dead



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**HIS LOVE ENDURES  
FOREVER.**

Psalm 136:1, NIV



# INTERFAITH SERVICE

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

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

St. Thomas More RCC

Temple Beth Chai

Calvary Lutheran

United Methodist

Wednesday November 26th

@ 7pm

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway

Hauppauge NY



# St. Thomas More THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

Thursday, November 27th at 9:00am

## Thanksgiving Day Prayer

God Our Creator

Today we celebrate Thanksgiving with joy.

While we thank thee for food, we remember the hungry and pray,

"Help us work for a hunger-free world."

While we thank thee for health, we remember the sick and pray,

"Grant us healthy body, mind, and spirit."

While we thank thee for friends, we remember the friendless and pray,

"Give us a heart to care for each other."

While we thank thee for freedom, we remember the enslaved and pray,

"Free us from selfishness, and prejudices."

Today, while our hearts and homes are filled with thanks, inspire us to remember that we are the beneficiaries of the gift of life from You and servants of the gift of life to others. Make us generous to others as you are generous to us.

Amen



PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
NOVEMBER 27TH AND 28TH



Please join us for a  
special Thanksgiving  
blessing!



# Children's Christmas Choir

Sung to the tune of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"...

God bless you all His children, for Christmas time is near

The little child of Bethlehem will very soon appear.

What can we give him for a gift, this tiny little King?

We can join in the Christmas Choir this year

**Lets give a cheer!**

You can join the Christmas Choir for time is near!

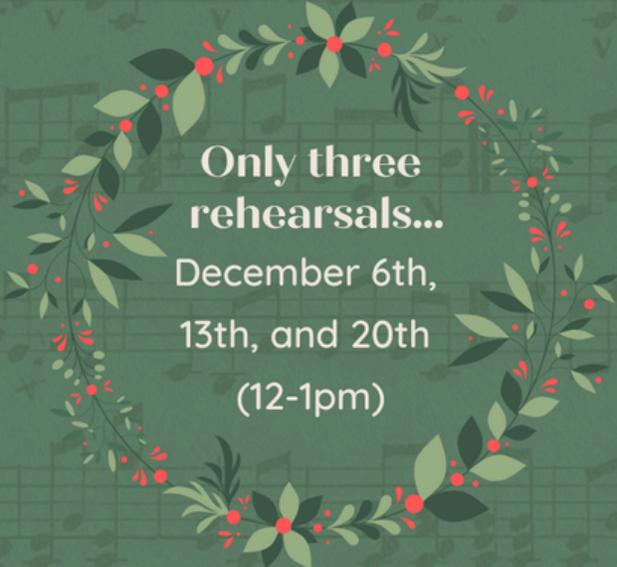


Calling all children to be a part of the celebration of Christmas!

Jesus came as a gift to us. What can we give Him in return? We can give Him our love and voices in joyful song!

Kids from 2nd grade through High School are welcome to share their voices at the 3:30pm Christmas Eve Mass!

Let's get together and celebrate the best "birthday" ever!



Only three rehearsals...

December 6th,  
13th, and 20th  
(12-1pm)

Please call Emilia at 631-724-8820 or stop by the organ to register!

# Christmas Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 6th

Immediately following the 5pm mass

*Take photos  
with Santa!*

*Hot Cocoa  
& cookies!*



# Would you like to be an Angel or Shepherd?

This is an exciting opportunity for  
your child to become an active  
part of the Nativity story!

## Requirements:

At least 5 years old

Rehearsal at 1:00 on 12/20

Mass at 3:30 on 12/24



Email [theresa@stmli.org](mailto:theresa@stmli.org) by 12/9  
to participate. Please include...

Child's name

Child's age

Guardian's contact info

\*Spots are limited. Names  
will be accepted in the order  
they were received



**ST. THOMAS MORE**

† R.C. CHURCH †

# Calendar Club 2026

## The Every Day Lotto!

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

One entry for \$25, or 5 entries for \$100.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**\*Early Bird Special: Deadline Sun Dec 14th\***

Buy FIVE entries and get a SIXTH on us!

Note: You must return your form and payment by Sunday  
December 14th.

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

Please place in envelope labeled Calendar Club 2026 and return to the rectory or the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!



# Office of Public Affairs

As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.

Despite obstacles and prejudices, generations of immigrants have made enormous contributions to the well-being of our nation. We as Catholic bishops love our country and pray for its peace and prosperity. For this very reason, we feel compelled now in this environment to raise our voices in defense of God-given human dignity.

Catholic teaching exhorts nations to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. We bishops advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation's immigration laws and procedures. Human dignity and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together.

We recognize that nations have a responsibility to regulate their borders and establish a just and orderly immigration system for the sake of the common good. Without such processes, immigrants face the risk of trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Safe and legal pathways serve as an antidote to such risks.

The Church's teaching rests on the foundational concern for the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). As pastors, we look to Sacred Scripture and the example of the Lord Himself, where we find the wisdom of God's compassion. The priority of the Lord, as the Prophets remind us, is for those who are most vulnerable: the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the stranger (Zechariah 7:10). In the Lord Jesus, we see the One who became poor for our sake (2 Corinthians 8:9), we see the Good Samaritan who lifts us from the dust (Luke 10:30-37), and we see the One who is found in the least of these (Matthew 25). The Church's concern for neighbor and our concern here for immigrants is a response to the Lord's command to love as He has loved us (John 13:34).

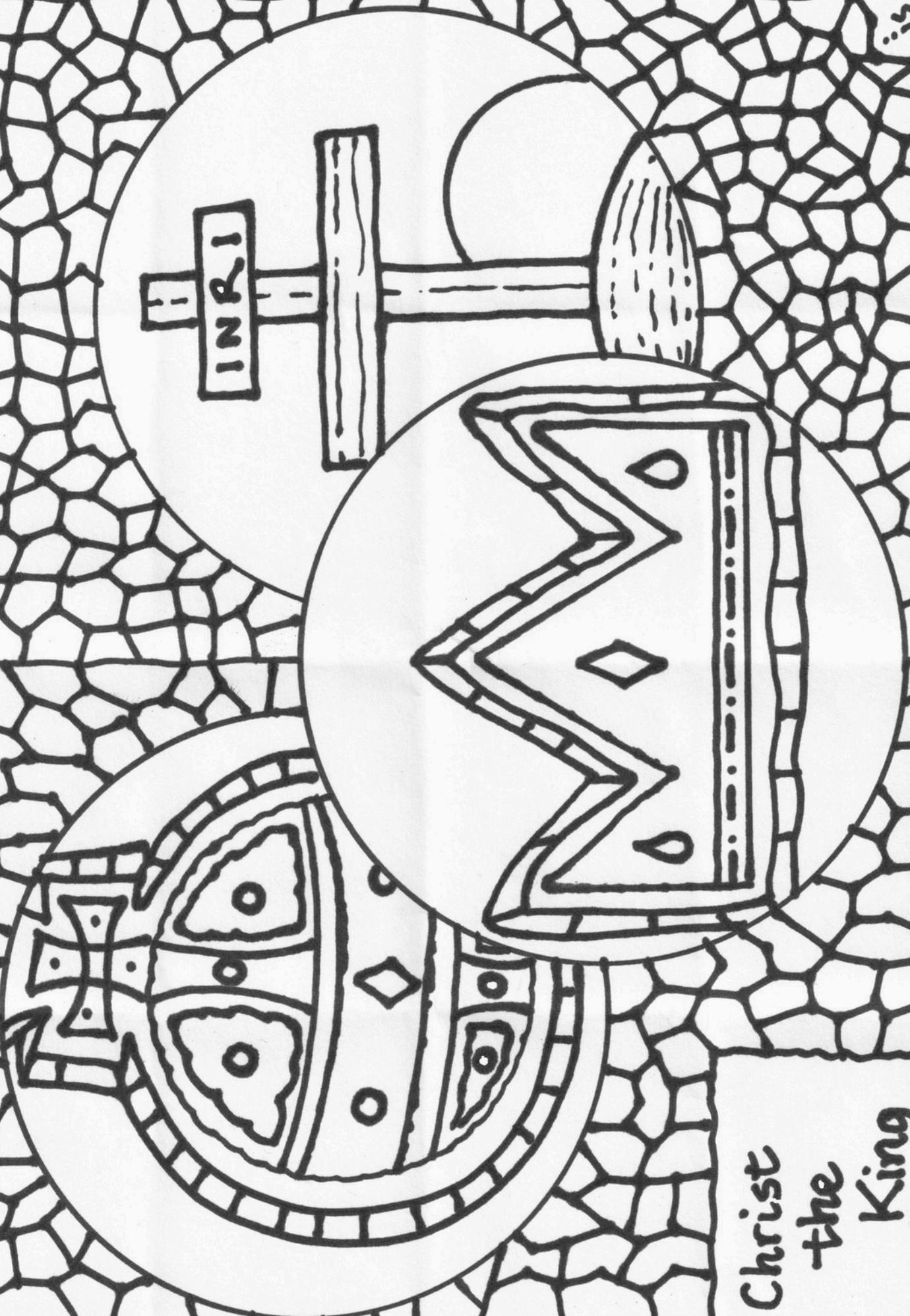
To our immigrant brothers and sisters, we stand with you in your suffering, since, when one member suffers, all suffer (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:26).  
You are not alone!

We note with gratitude that so many of our clergy, consecrated religious, and lay faithful already accompany and assist immigrants in meeting their basic human needs. We urge all people of good will to continue and expand such efforts.

We oppose the indiscriminate mass deportation of people. We pray for an end to dehumanizing rhetoric and violence, whether directed at immigrants or at law enforcement. We pray that the Lord may guide the leaders of our nation, and we are grateful for past and present opportunities to dialogue with public and elected officials. In this dialogue, we will continue to advocate for meaningful immigration reform.

*As disciples of the Lord, we remain men and women of hope,  
and hope does not disappoint! (cf. Romans 5:5)*

*May the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe enfold us all in her maternal and loving care and draw us ever closer to the heart of Christ.*



Christ  
the  
King