

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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

February 15<sup>th</sup> 2026



This Week's Readings

Sirach 15:15-20

Psalms 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

## Sixth 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, February 14th

5:00pm Leo Ramos  
Nicholas Conzo

## Sunday, February 15th

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Antonia Castagna  
9:30am German Vinzente Manzi  
Carl Bothe  
11:30am Richard Stout

## Monday, February 16th

9:00am Al Weidig

## Tuesday, February 17th

9:00am Juanita Williams

## Wednesday, February 18th

9:00am Theresa Doria  
7:00pm People of STM

## Thursday, February 19th

9:00am Stacey Skrzypek

## Friday, February 20th

9:00am Al Weidig

## Saturday, February 21st

5:00pm William Carney  
Nunzio Puleo

## Sunday, February 22nd

1st Sunday of Lent

8:00am Olivia Hotar  
9:30am Eileen Macholz-Barr  
11:30am Al Weidig  
Chet Kalenty



## 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

Sts. Cyril & Methodius (2/14)  
Sts. Jacinta & Francisco Marto (2/20)  
St. Peter Damian (2/21)  
Chair of St. Peter (2/22)

Saints in heaven, pray for us

## Prepare for Next Weekend

First Sunday of Lent  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025

### Readings

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7  
Psalm 51:3-4,5-6,12-13,17  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

### Focus Questions

1: How do you recognize evil?  
2: What do you do to protect yourself against the contagion of evil?  
3: Which of the temptations in the reading (to be like God, to satisfy physical pleasure, to try to be in control) is the most tempting for you?  
Families: The three spiritual practices Christians do in Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. What can you do to practice all three?

### Gospel of Matthew (4:1-11)

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."  
Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone."  
Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."  
Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

our  
*daily bread*

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



# From the Pastor

Mother: "How could you be so rude as to tell your sister she's stupid? **Tell her you're sorry.**"

Boy: "Sis, I'm sorry you're stupid."

Yes the boy obeyed his mom by expressing his 'sorry', but his act of obedience did not have the spirit of sorry for hurting his sister. The law is not merely an act of doing something, but a means of living one's goodness and avoiding the occasions of hurting.

Today's readings **liberate us from the burdens of law by living the spirit of the law.** The purpose of the law is to save us from evil and death and thus enabling us to savor the goodness and the fullness of life. The aim of the law is not merely to impose upon us the 'do's and 'don't's. Rather, law focuses on our freedom to choose the good over the evil, life over death. Thus law is not an external agent but an internal ignition to choose goodness and life.

In today's Gospel Jesus treats the **law as an initial inspiring agent** to activate our inner – positive – spiritual force. The law does not contain any power. It can only stipulate and thus offer a choice to do or not to do an act. Rather, we empower the law with our positive or negative response to it. Jesus asks us to take law to inspire the inner positive spiritual force to bring out the best from us.

**Jesus gives various examples how to handle the law.** The aim of the law 'you shall not kill' is not to inform us how far one can hurt the other without killing that person. Rather, law invites us to realize how spiritually and positively potent we are to be the best, to avoid the anger which is the first step towards the final act of murder. Let us not limit ourselves with do's and don'ts but bloom with our inner spiritual power to be the best.

The spirit of the law "you shall not kill," means not merely to avoid killing, **but to promote the opportunities of living.** Thus, the spirit of this law 'thou shall not kill' does not encourage anything - even the anger or yelling - that would hinder the opportunity of living. The literal observance of any law reduces human living to a mechanical act. Trying to live the spirit of the law liberates life and uplifts the humans to live in a loving relationship.

In today's Gospel Jesus explains the spirit of the few other laws in the same way. "You shall not commit adultery.", "Do not take a false oath". The focus of the law's spirit is not that single act of avoiding adultery or false oath. The spiritual power and the direction of those laws are to avoid every single act that led to these sins. The unfaithfulness of a spouse starts when that person looks at anyone other than his/her spouse in lust. Likewise, the false oath starts already in every single act when one's word does not match with one's deed. The spirit of the law contains in promoting faithfulness and truthfulness. **Let us not limit ourselves** with 'do's and 'don'ts but bloom with our inner spiritual power to be the best.

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

Salvatore J Russello  
Sal Amodeo

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

St Gertrude, pray for us.

## Pray for the Sick

Andrew M Valentine	Helen Kovarik	Marge McGowan
Angela Mingione	Jim Engle	Maria U Aldaba
Anna Mancuso	Jim Moran	Maria Pipia
Barbara Foberg	Jimmy Cannon	Michael Jacobs Sr.
Blair Rocchio	John Heller	Michael Minutillo
Carol Ann Raucci	John McGann	Michelle Chiarulli
Christopher Conley	Joseph Beltrani Sr.	Nina Busse
Christy Torkelsen	Joseph Tuffarelli	Noah Simonetti
Diane McCann	Larry Wilson	Pat Camera
Dolores Rudden	Linda Heller	Patricia Stronczer
Ellen Murphy	Lorraine White	Phil Camera
Baby Emerson Brae Mark	Lou Savarese	Richard Landi
Emily Bolkas	Louise Soldo	Baby Sienna Dwyer

\*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

February 16<sup>th</sup> - February 22<sup>nd</sup>

In memory of

Chet Kalenty

by Lottie Kalenty & Family

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

## Pray for our Clergy

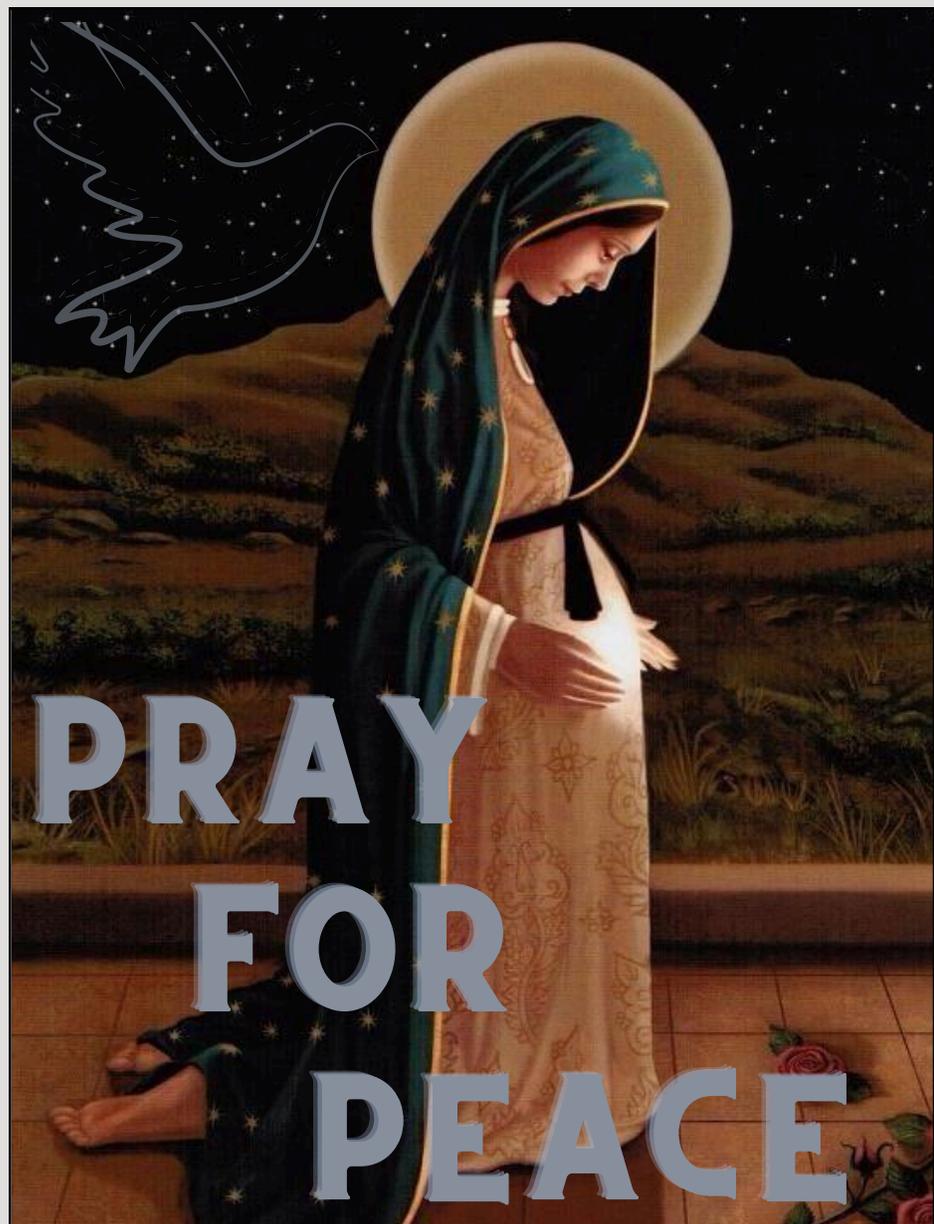
Father Antony Asir  
Deacon Robert Weisz  
Deacon Edward Vigneaux  
Deacon Matthew Surico  
The Capuchin Friars  
Bishop John Barres  
Pope Leo XIV

## 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:  
February 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

# \$5616

Please consider supporting St. Thomas More. We encourage all parishioners to try electronic giving through ParishSoft Giving. It is both convenient and secure. For more information, 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. There is a clothing bin in the back of the parking lot where clothing can be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. If you have household items, please call the Outreach office!

## Parish Social Ministry

"Use your voice for kindness, your ears for compassion, your hands for charity, your mind for truth, and your heart for love."

ANONYMOUS

### 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.



### OUR NEEDS THIS WEEK...

Pancake Mix	Drinks (Juices/Powdered)
Cookies	Syrup
Toothpaste	Paper Towels
Jelly	Peanut Butter
Boxed/Powdered Milk	

\*We are overflowing with BEANS. We would appreciate it if you could pick up different items instead of beans! Thanks!

### 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.

I AM FILLED  
WITH  
Compassion.  
Colossians 3:12

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel Jesus says: "Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands shall be great in the kingdom of God."

By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you indeed put your faith into action as you fulfill the commands of Jesus.

You might also consider joining our conference and helping put our faith into action.



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



# Pre-Cana 2026

Please pray for these couples  
on their journey to the  
Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Jennifer Falcone  
&  
Nicholas Tush

Deanna Knopf  
&  
John Cullen

Julie Mazzie  
&  
Andrew Opacke

Leanne Walsh  
&  
Erick Idtensohn

Rose Recce  
&  
Tyler Schiavone



# BANNS OF Marriage

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

JESSICA BOISROND-  
CANAL

St. Matthew's  
Dix Hills



CHRISTIAN  
DAMOUR

St. Thomas More  
Hauppauge



# SCOUT SUNDAY



The Scouts of Troop 343 at Scout Sunday last weekend. A Scout is Reverent!

OUR LADY  
QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعو لنا

молися за нас

# Parish Weddings

Please pray for these beautiful couples who received the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony here at St. Thomas More!



Lauren Brusseler & Marcos Pedone

P.E.A.C.E.



## baby bottles



Our local Knights of Columbus Chapter 6062 is facilitating the Baby Bottle Fundraiser to benefit the Life Center of Long Island!

The Life Center helps to provide:

Free pregnancy tests and sonograms

Maternity housing and medical care referrals

Aid ranging from car seats to diapers to cribs

Please take home a bottle and fill it with your donation (or checks payable to 'Life Center of LI' and return to church on March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>



NEXT MEETING:  
FEBRUARY 13TH

JOIN US!

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS  
WELCOME!

CALL ANNA  
631-234-0714

## ParishSOFT<sup>®</sup> Giving

As FaithDirect was acquired and rolled into ParishSoft Giving, many parishioners are still having issues with their accounts. If you need help, please contact ParishSoft Support directly. We apologize for any inconvenience this process has caused, and we are looking into other options.

Thank you for your patience.

ParishSoft Contact Options

866-507-8757

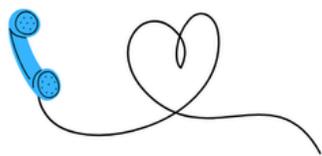
[donorsupport@parishsoft.com](mailto:donorsupport@parishsoft.com)

866-930-4774 x5

# Presentation of Babies

Please keep these parents and children in your prayers as they take the first step on the path of Catholicism!





# LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP..



Parish Outreach is beginning a new ministry to reach out to our elderly and homebound. We are hoping to start at the beginning of February and are looking for volunteers who may be available one or two hours a week to make a "check in" phone call. We will have a meeting to discuss the protocol for these calls at the end of January.

**If you are interested, please give Outreach a call at 631-234-3149 and we will take your information.**

In order to complete this ministry, we need to identify those in our community who are living alone, elderly, or homebound. If you know someone who would benefit from a friendly call once a week, please contact the Outreach office.

## 2025 Parish Contribution

To request a copy of your 2025 contributions for tax purposes, please write down your name and submit this form in the collection basket, or to the Rectory.

Alternative: scan the QR code!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you use Faith Direct (now ParishSoft Giving), you can obtain your tax information via their website.





# Ash Wednesday

February 18th, 2026

**Services**

12pm

4:30pm



**Masses**

9am

7pm



# LENTEN *Parish* PROJECT

## SUPPORTING ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



Parish Social Ministry is an organized effort within our parish that translates faith into action by serving the needy, marginalized, and vulnerable in the community. It focuses on both immediate, charitable relief (such as food pantries) and community outreach. Parish social ministry is essential in how the church responds to the real, everyday needs of people in the community. Rooted in faith, it's more than charity but a Christian love. It connects Catholic teachings with outreach, advocacy, and compassionate service.

Here at St. Thomas More Parish Social Ministry is comprised of 2 main groups – Parish Outreach, our food pantry servicing 50 to 60 families per month, and our St. Vincent de Paul conference which provides financial support to families who are experiencing life events that create financial hardships and impact their ability to maintain housing, utilities, and other essential activities.

Donations obtained from our Lenten Project will be split between these 2 groups. We appreciate your support to continue providing these much needed services to our vulnerable neighbors.



Thank you for your generosity!

Checks can be made payable to **St. Thomas More** and placed in the little house by the bulletin board, the collection basket, or dropped off at the Rectory. Please note “**Lenten Project**” in the memo line.

# COME AND BE FED

## a lenten mission in three parts

Join us in exploring the Lenten theme of being fed by physical and spiritual food, with a focus on Faith and Art. Each session will feature...

- Reading of the Sunday Gospel (in parts)
- Simple Lenten meals (AM: coffee, bagels; PM: soup, stew)
- Video presentation on a piece of art related to the theme, and its religious significance
- Group discussion with meditation questions on the art, how it relates to our life & relationship with God
- Short session of Ignatian Imaginative Prayer
- Take-home assignments for further spiritual feeding and growth!



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL **MON 3/9**

HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN **WED 3/18**

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS **WED 3/25**

Each session will be offered twice, a morning and an evening session. Morning sessions will start at 9:45am (after Daily Mass) and evening sessions at 6:30pm. The program will run for about 75 minutes.

As we are serving food, we request you RSVP using the QR code below. If you are willing to volunteer to serve as a facilitator or lector, you can also indicate that below.





**ST. Thomas More**  
**Msgr. Francis S Midura**  
**Council 6062**  
**St. Patrick's Day Dinner**  
**Saturday, March 14, 2026**

Following the 5 PM Mass

The cost will be **\$25.00** per person.

**NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**

Ed Rogan, PGK

Email: [eroganjr@verizon.net](mailto:eroganjr@verizon.net)

516-319-8643





# The Rosary

## AND WHY WE SHOULD PRAY IT DAILY

THE FOLLOWING COME DIRECTLY FROM MARY, AS GIVEN TO ST DOMINIC AND BLESSED ALAN DE LA ROCHE

1: Those who faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary shall receive signal graces.

2: I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.

3: The Rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell. It will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.

4: The recitation of the Rosary will cause virtue and good works to flourish. It will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God.

5: The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary shall not perish.

6: Those who recite my Rosary devoutly, applying themselves to the consideration of its sacred mysteries, shall never be conquered by misfortune.

7: Those who have a true devotion to the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.

8: Those who faithfully recite the Rosary shall have, during their life and at their death, the light of God and the plenitude of His graces.

9: I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.

10: The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.

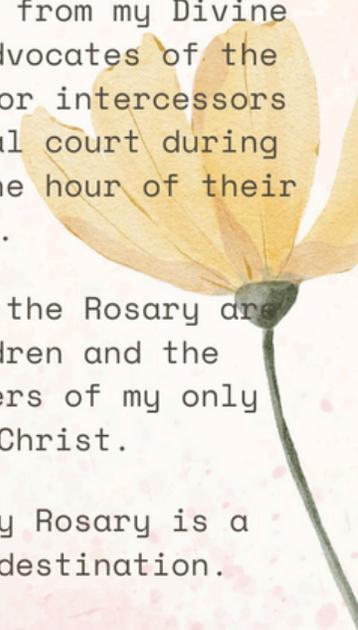
11: By the recitation of the Rosary you shall obtain all that you ask of me.

12: Those who propagate the holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.

13: I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of their death.

14: All who recite the Rosary are my beloved children and the brothers and sisters of my only Son, Jesus Christ.

15: Devotion for my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.



ST. THOMAS MORE  
† R.C. CHURCH †

*"United in the Love of Christ"*

# LENTEN *Parish* PROJECT



SUPPORTING ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



Funds collected will be split between Parish Outreach and the Society for St. Vincent de Paul. All the money collected will be going right back into our Hauppauge community.

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

## COME AND BE FED

a lenten mission in three parts



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL **MON 3/9**

HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN **WED 3/18**

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS **WED 3/25**

Each session will be offered at 9:45am and 6:30pm.



RSVP

Featuring...  
Gospel Readings  
Meditations on artworks  
Group discussion  
Simple Lenten meals



## Easter Sunday

Masses at:

8:00am

9:30am

11:30am

## 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



# LENT 2026

ST. THOMAS MORE  
R.C. CHURCH



## Ash Wednesday

FEBRUARY 18TH 2026

MASS 9:00AM  
SERVICE 12:00PM  
SERVICE 4:30PM  
MASS 7:00PM

ST. THOMAS MORE  
R.C. CHURCH

### LENTEN MASS OF HEALING

Sunday, March 22nd at 11:30am  
anointing of the sick to follow



· BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED ·

## 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.

### SUN 3/29 PALM SUNDAY

Normal weekend Masses will be offered: 5pm Vigil, 8am, 9:30am, and 11:30am. Please arrive early to be seated before the Gospel at the start of Mass.

### MON 3/30 RECONCILIATION DAY

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

### THUR 4/2 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, ending with Night Prayer from the Liturgy of Hours.

## 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 4/3 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 4/4 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

