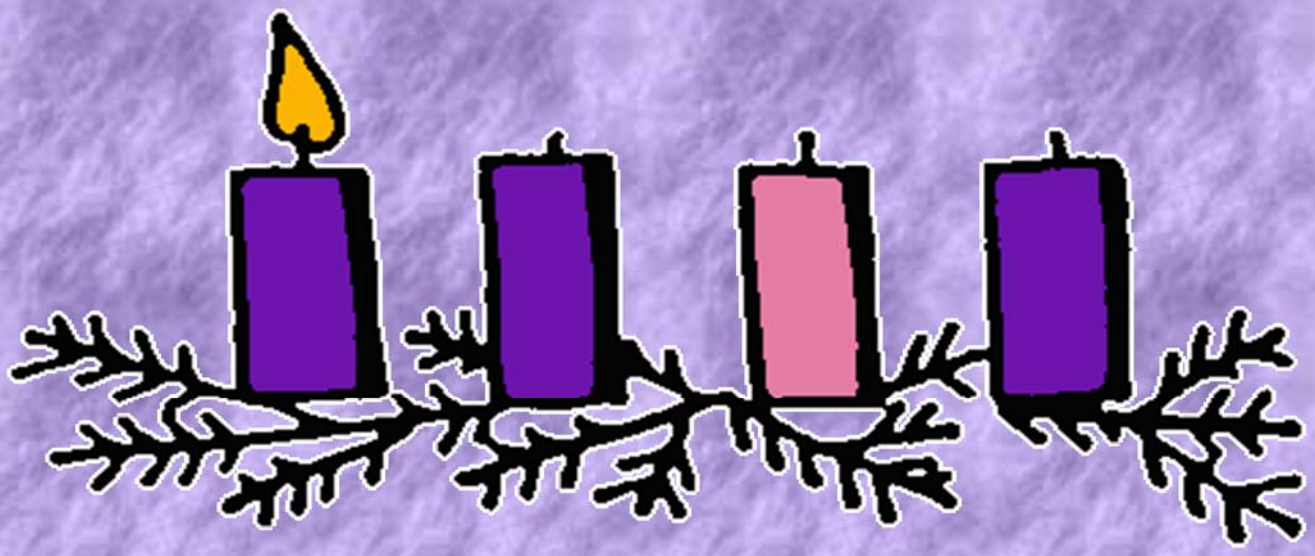
First Sunday of Advent

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when
the Lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly
and find you sleeping.
What I say to you,
I say to all: 'Watch!'"

(Mk 13:35-37)



St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church *8501 Calumet Avenue, Munster, IN 46321*

Mission Statement : The Roman Catholic Saint Thomas More Parish Family welcomes and invites every person to join us on our journey in faith and celebration. With the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and through Sacred Scripture and Tradition, we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, especially in loving service to those in need. As part of the Universal Church, we affirm the dignity of every person. All this we do to give glory and honor to God.

Pastoral Staff

Pastor ..... Reverend Michael J. Yadron, KCHS; Ext. 312
myadron@stm-church.com
Associate Pastor.....Reverend Ted J. Mauch; Ext. 314
tmauch@stm-church.com
Senior Deacon.....Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS
Deacons .....David Kapala, KHS
.....Joseph Stodola, KHS
..... Daniel Zurawski, KHS
Director of Finance..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Pastoral Care Coordinator..... Madeleine Moya; Ext. 313
Director of Music.....Angie Lorandos; Ext. 338
Director of Religious Education ..... Emily Hackett; Ext. 332
Director of Development .....Amanda King; Ext. 342

Parish Office Staff

Hours: Mon-Friday 8:00 am-8:00 pm • Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Web Site.....www.stm-church.com
Email address.....parish.office@stm-church.com
Email address for bulletin.....bulletin@stm-church.com
Office Phone……. 836-8610 Office Fax 836-9185
Bulletin Editor .....Pam Pasyk; Ext. 309
Daytime Receptionist..... Susan Strain; Ext. 310
Evening Receptionist..... Veronica Brtos; Ext. 310
Building Maintenance……Dale Slosser 836-8610

Pastoral Ministries

Environment & Art.....Jean Bados 836-8610
Eucharistic Ministers ..... Carole Mackey 808-9732
Hospitality/Greeters ..... Chris Shearman 923-1419
Lectors .....William McDunn 922-9459
Nursery .....Kaaren A. Mashura 836-5079
St. Vincent de Paul .....Michael Martinelli 836-8610
Vocations Committee .....Mary Kochis 322-7262

2014-2015 Pastoral Council Members

Leslie Dernulc..... Joe Dubczak
Christi Kordeck.....Michael Korfiatis
Mary Kretz..... Jim Landowski
Paul Liszewski, Chairperson.....Bill McDunn
Jesse Montenegro .....Joe O'Brien
Cindy Thompson ..... Ruth Yothment

St. Thomas More School

Pre-School through 8th Grade

Office Hours: Monday– Friday ~ 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Web Site..... www.stm-school.com
School Phone..... 836-9151 School Fax.....836-0982
President ..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Principal..... Chet Nordyke, KCHS; Ext. 328
Assistant Principal ..... Cynthia Block; Ext. 328
School Administrative Assistant…….. Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 328
School Reception & Office Associate……. Sandra Steele; Ext. 329
Home & School Association.....Kris Miller; (312) 909-8156
Parish & School Offices Associate ..... Mary Jo Biscan; Ext. 311
Parish & School Offices Associate .....Pam Wadycki; Ext. 339
School Admissions .....Pam Pasyk; Ext. 309

Weis Center

8635 Calumet Avenue ~ Munster, IN 46321
Phone 836-2660
Fax 836-2655

Sacramental Information

Confessions
Saturdays ..... **3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**
First Friday .....1/2 hour before the 6:30 a.m. Mass
Baptisms ..... First and Third Sundays at 1:00 p.m.
Parents must be registered parishioners and regularly attending at least six months before the Baptism. At least one of the godparents **must** be a practicing Catholic.
Pre Baptism Class.....2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Parents must call the Parish Office to schedule class and/or Baptism.
Marriage..... Must be a registered, practicing member of the parish at least six months before beginning the six month preparation program for marriage.
Communion calls and visits to Hospitals and Homebound: Call the Parish Office for Sacraments at hospital or at home.

New Parishioner Registration

To make it as convenient as possible for you, new parishioners may register at any time in the Parish Office.

St. Thomas More Religious Education

Kindergarten through 8th Grade

Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday & Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday — 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Religious Education Phone..... 836-8610
Director..... Emily Hackett; Ext. 332
Administrative Assistant.....Carolyn McGill; Ext. 336
Grades K through 8 ~ Wednesday or Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Pastoral Commissions Chairpersons

Formation/Education .....Barbara Topete
Parish Life ..... Elaine Herrmann
Peace & Social Justice ..... Mary Silvasi
Spirituality & Worship..... Kaaren Mashura
Stewardship .....Noreen Bickel

Parish Organizations

Altar & Rosary Society..... Kathleen Pagorek 972-0539
Blue Army .....Rose Marie Malburg 836-8779
Boy Scouts..... Curt Anglin 902-5126
Career Networking Group…… Christine Spencer 836-8610
Circle of Prayer……..Mary Jo Humpfer 836-5002
Cub Scouts.....Chris Bedenk 595-2470
Finance .....Barbara Shaver 838-9200
Gabriel Project..... Carolyn Grskovich 836-8610
Garden Club.....Al Carollo 836-8268
Gifts of Love & Warmth……..Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544
Girl Scouts ..... Renee Whelan
Holy Name Society.....Joe Adams 865-3566
Knights of Columbus..... Richard Alvarado 614-3743
K of C Columbian Squires…….....Ralph Konkoly 588-4559
Moms' Group .....Ann Meduga 629-6531
Oblates……..Denise Gard 836-9115
Respect Life.....Alice Wohler 836-5337
Senior Citizens..... Herb Cleve 670-2982
The Travelers Club……..Lois Quinn 836-7902
Ushers Club ..... ….Jim Marmalejo 836-1463
Venture Crew……...Fr. Ben Ross 322-4505

Please remember St. Thomas More in your Will and Estate Planning

Celebrants

Saturday, November 29

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

Sunday, November 30

6:30 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
8:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
10:00 a.m. Fr. Ted Mauch
12:00 Noon Fr. Ted Mauch

Servers

SATURDAY, December 6

8:30 am E. & T. Zabrecky
5:30 pm M. Queroz, G. & I. Scalzo, T. Speranza, S. Szala/ MC ~ Nick

SUNDAY, December 7

6:30 am F. Beckman, L. Cabrales, E. Korwek
8:00 am A. & M. Nahnsen, M. Sharp, D. Smith, M. Slivka/ MC ~ Elizabeth B.
10:00 am C. & M. Osmulski, B. Sikora, D. Zuccarelli, A. Berkley/ MC ~ Joey
12:00 pm N. Anglin, J. & M. Blanford/ MC ~ Alyssa

Readings for Week of November 30

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Vocations Committee

What do we do as parishioners of our faith community to encourage our young men to consider priestly vocations? Both our spiritual and financial support is so vital for this needed growth of vocations to the priesthood.

Pastoral Care Ministry

Hospital Visits

In compliance with HIPAA legislation (patient privacy), hospitals ***do not*** notify our parish about parishioner hospitalizations unless requested to do so by the patient or patient's family. If you or a family member are at Community Hospital, please notify the Parish Office.

Home Communion

If you or a family member would like to receive home Communion, call Pastoral Care at (219) 836-8610, ext. 313.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, November 30 — *First Sunday of Advent*

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am Gerald Skonieczny (Ann.) by Joe Grahm & Dottie Smith
10:00 am Living & Deceased Members & Friends of Somenzi Family
12:00 pm Intention of Gene & Mary Leahy

MONDAY, December 1

6:30 am Raymond Mueller (Ann.) by Wife & Daughter
8:30 am Roland Kwasny by Ted & Claire Korabel

TUESDAY, December 2

6:30 am Antonio Porras Sr. (Ann.) & Arlis Stanfeld by Sylvester & Kathy Porras
8:30 am Sandy Orzechowski by Bettianne Hackett
10:00 am Joanne Darrington by STM Altar & Rosary Society (MASS AT MED-INN CHAPEL, Group 1)

WEDNESDAY, December 3 — *St. Francis Xavier*

6:30 am Josephine M. Wleklinski by Joann M. Wleklinski
8:30 am Antoni Rajkowski (Ann.) by Family

THURSDAY, December 4

6:30 am Joseph Bobalik by Nancy & Susan Hlebasko
9:00 am Brady Tabors by Etter Family

FRIDAY, December 5 — *First Friday*

6:30 am Julie Knesek by Barbara & Perry Hatfield
8:30 am Joseph Biegel by Helen Rich

SATURDAY, December 6 — *First Saturday*

8:30 am Joseph Mazanek by STM Religious Ed Department
5:30 pm Lillian Jaworski by Family

SUNDAY, December 7 — *Second Sunday of Advent*

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am Mary Jean Christy (Ann.) by Family
10:00 am Anthony Peloza by Barbara Peloza
12:00 pm David Leask by Deacon & Mrs. Joseph Stodola

November Nursery Schedule

The Nursery is located in the Bride's Room during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Sunday, December 7
Kim Cipowski & Ann Harkenrider

Sunday, December 14
Casey & Chris Perz

Sunday, December 21
Michelle Wendlinger & Susie Kinsella

Sunday, December 25
Merry Christmas!
Kaaren Mashura & Katherine Pala

Sunday, December 28
Jill Bochenek & Kaaren Mashura

First Sunday of Advent

"What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'" The season of Advent begins with this exclamation from the Lord. He urges us, "Be watchful! Be alert!" This is not the time for a spiritual snooze. Advent is meant to serve as a wake-up call for those of us Christians who have a tendency to start drifting off after a while. We get into our routines, find the patterns that work for us, and then run the risk of just going through the motions. Maybe we say a morning prayer with consistency but have begun to forget to really think about the words. Perhaps we rouse ourselves enough to get to Mass on Sundays, but when we're there we let our minds daydream. Some of us might have made spiritual resolutions to overcome a bad habit or to begin some regular program of service, but instead of following through with the hard work of perseverance, we gave up the effort and fell back into our previous rut. Whatever the case, now is the time to shake ourselves free and to ask God to invigorate us once again. Now is the time to stop zoning out and start tuning in. Jesus' message today has the intention of getting our attention. He's doing what he can; the rest is up to us. As Advent begins, we would do well to pause for a few moments and reflect. What might be preventing me from being fully awake to my faith? What activities preoccupy my time and my thoughts? What bad habits blur my spiritual vision? How could I really listen to the voice of the Lord this Advent season? Saying a special prayer during these four weeks, committing to some spiritual reading, even simply putting an Advent wreath on the table: any of these things can help us stay awake as we continue watching and waiting for the coming of Christ.

Please pray for the sick of our parish...

Joshua Alvarez
Margaret Amatulli
Doris Aurelio
Maria Aurelio
Irene Baker
Antonio Belmonte
Michael Berry
Michael Blazevich
Laverne Blumka
Michael Boston
Cheryl Bostrom
Robert Boyle
Stephany Burney
Dorothy Campbell
James Campbell
Thomas Cak
Al Carollo
Carol Carollo
Janet Cattanach
Jacqueline Morrow Christian
Frank Coman
Vincent Corsello
Mike Curtain
Margaret Demkovich
Ann D'Orazio
Lucille Detterline
Irene Dettmer
Ann DeVoy
MaryPat Devoy
Irene Dickey
Jeanine Doescher
Alex Eiland
Sherlon Evans
John Forde
Phyllis Garber
Denise Gard
Andrea Garritano
Margaret Geary
Dorothy Giannini
Emily Gibson
Dorothy Gillespie
Jacqueleen Gonzalez
Margaret Good
Howard Gralewski
James Grunewald

Amy Hayes
Eleanore Heggi
Marie Henke
Evelyn Hennes
Bernadine Henson
Marisol Hernandez
Becky Hill
Megan Homcho
Mary Jo Humpfer
Steve Izzo
Dennis Jablonski
Elizabeth Jacob
Barbara Jamrose
Stanley Jayjack
Rosemary Jerzak-Staszel
Penny Jurkash
Debbie Kaczka
Robert Kalka
James Klein, Sr.
Carol Keilman
Janet Knight
Susan Kolodziej
Miller Krizmanic
Jerome Kula
Annika LeMonier
Debbie LeMonier
Richard LaVigne
Gene Leahy
Mary Leahy
Jo Lisiniewicz
Edward Liskiewicz
Stanley Liskiewicz
Maria Lovell
Charlene Madura
Mary Manchak
Brady Martin
Jenny Mendoza
Faye Meny
Sandi Merlo
Stephanie Mueller
Olga Mihalo
Andrew Moll
Elissa Moll
David Moll
Jean Narvid

Donna Nichols
Steven Nowaczyk
Valerie O'Donnell
Danny Ogren
Emily Orosco
Christine Osmulski
Johanna Petruch
Andrew Pieczyrak
Elizabeth Pilones
Sylvester Porras
Timothy Ribble
Jackie Roach
Burt Robinson
Kristen Rubin
Ann Sardella
George Sauer
Marie Schultz
Marianne Schwartz
William Schwartz
Zachery Scriff
James Secviar
Jim Seul
Renee Shehan
Thomas Skarbek
Dennis Skarupa
Nick Skinner
Lydia Skorupa
Carolyn Smiley
Deborah Stareck
Florence Stevens
Georgianne Suto
Celine Szczepaniak
Carrie Szumelda
Barbara Szypczak
Rose Theis
Gerardo Trevino
Kathie Trudgian
Anthony Ubuane
Tony Vanden Heuvel
Raymond Vanderbok
Julia Vrbanich
Pam Wadycki
Adele Wall
Don Woszczynski
Cecilia Ziegler
Cody Ziemkowski

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY, November 30
First Sunday of Advent
St. Vincent De Paul Food Collection at All Masses
6:00 pm Taizė Prayer Service ~ Church

MONDAY, December 1
7:00 pm Blue Army ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Schola ~ Church
7:00 pm Vocations ~ Conference Room

TUESDAY, December 2
8:30 a.m. Mass of the Toys ~ All School Mass
9:15 am Eucharistic Adoration (until 6:30 pm) ~ Chapel
1:00 pm Prayer/Vocations ~ Chapel
6:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Chapel
7:00 pm RCIA ~ Conference Room
7:00 pm Gabriel Project ~ Solar Room

WEDNESDAY, December 3
9:30 am Bible Study ~ Conference Room
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 pm)
5:00 pm RCIC ~ Conference Room
6:00 pm Handbell Choir Practice ~ Church

THURSDAY, December 4
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 pm)
7:00 pm All Seasons Chorale ~ Church

FRIDAY, December 5
9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth ~ Conference Room
6:00 pm STMS Pizza with Santa ~ Gym

SATURDAY, December 6
8:00 am First Saturday Rosary ~ Church
7:00 pm STMS Jr. High Dance ~ Gym

SUNDAY, December 7
6:00 pm Taizė Prayer Service ~ Church
No Vigil Mass This Evening

Evening Scripture Study

All adult parishioners are invited to join our Evening Scripture Study group. Again this session, we will be using the Little Rock Scripture Study program.

Each class includes prayer, group discussion about the week's reading and commentary and a video.

This session, we will be doing a study of the Acts of the Apostles.

The excitement of Pentecost enlivens the early believers in their struggles to establish communities of faith—struggles surprisingly like those today. You will meet two of the early Church's most significant leaders in the persons of Peter and Paul during the 10 week study.

Thursday Evenings— January 8th - March 12th
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The cost of the program is $20.00 to cover the study materials and will be collected at the first class.

Please register by December 18th. Contact Carolyn McGill at (219) 836-8610 or cmcgill@stm-church.com.

VIGILANCE

"Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'" (Mk 13:35-37)

The standard definition of vigilance is "the action or state of keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties." Vigilance is something that is paramount to our safety and something that must be taught and encouraged.

When we are first born, we are not very vigilant. As a matter of fact, we are far from it. We will touch anything, hold anything, taste anything, approach anything. The "glitzier" the better. We do not care — or know, for that matter — that fire is hot. We simply see that it is visually attracting and we approach it to touch.

Without our parents standing by and observing our every move, some of the results of our non-vigilance would be quite disastrous. We would burn ourselves or cut ourselves or poison ourselves in a heartbeat. That is why our parents, grandparents, guardians, or others who raise us play such a crucial role. They teach us that some things are very bad for us, that some things can hurt us, that some things can kill us, and that we need to be careful and watch our step.

Thankfully, that watchfulness gets taught to us rather early in life and we become much more vigilant and, in doing so, survive our childhood.

Jesus was speaking about vigilance in today's gospel. He told His followers that they needed to "watch!" so that they would not be found unaware. The vigilance of which Jesus spoke was critical to His followers. If they embraced the warning of the Lord, they would live their lives in readiness so that, when He returned, He would find them waiting. If they rejected the Lord's warning, they would wander away and become lost.

Jesus does not want to lose any of us. That is why He challenged us to be vigilant, to be prepared. That is the clarion call of the Advent Season. We ask God to help us be prepared this day!

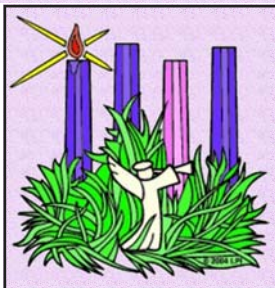
FAITH ACTION: Ask God to give you the grace that you need to be vigilant.

Fr. Mike

PLEASE REMEMBER THEM

Please pray for the priests and deacons who have served the Diocese of Gary so faithfully and whose anniversaries of death are this week:

December 1: Rev. Wilfred P. Mannion (1959)
Rev. Francis M. Lazar (2007)
December 3: Msgr. Leo P. Hildebrandt (1979)
Rev. Chester P. Zurawiec (1993)
December 4: Rev. Anthony J. Suelzer (1995)
Msgr. Ralph Hoffman (2000)



ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

On this First Sunday of Advent, gather the family together and pray the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we begin our Advent Season in joyful expectation. We await not only the celebration of the birth of your Son at Christmas but also the day when He returns.

Help us to be vigilant, so that we may be found prepared. We ask this in your name, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

After the prayer, light the first purple candle of your wreath. Then, if you wish, sing together:

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lonely exile here.
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS

"Prepare" means more than baking cookies and sending cards. It also means getting ourselves ready spiritually. Some of the ways to prepare spiritually this season include:

- ✠ Taizé Prayer in the church every Sunday at 6:00 p.m. (except December 21)
- ✠ School confessions Tuesday, December 16th, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Advent Penance Service Tuesday, December 16th, 7:00 p.m.
- ✠ Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Advent had finally arrived and, with it, a wonderful opportunity to teach the children about waiting patiently for Christmas. A couple pulled out all the stops. They cut branches, their children fashioned a wreath, and the parents explained about the holy season.

Confident that they had done the best they could do, the father lit the first candle of the wreath. His little daughter exclaimed, "If we were really patient, we'd wait until Jesus' birthday to light his candles, wouldn't we?!"

Religious Education

December Schedule

3/4	Class
9	***Confirmation Retreat —All 8th Grade Students*** **8:15 a.m.—2:30 p.m. in the STM Gym**
10/11	Class
17/18	Class
24/25	***No Class — Christmas Break***
31	***No Class — Happy New Year!***

Virtus Training

Virtus Training is scheduled for

Saturday, December 13, 2014

from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the Solar Room.
The Virtus Program deals with the awareness and prevention of the sexual abuse of children.
Due to the content of the program, absolutely NO children are permitted to attend the training.
Anyone 18 years or older must be Virtus trained to volunteer or work in the school or in the parish.
Please email Carolyn McGill at cmcgill@stm-church.com to reserve your seat for Virtus training and to assure we have enough materials for everyone. Please arrive promptly at 10:30 a.m. and enter through the gymnasium doors under the carport.

Catholic Campaign

for Human Development

Thank you for your contributions to the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Your generous gifts will help CCHD end poverty in the United States through better education, improved housing and economic development. Through CCHD and its beneficiaries, we help keep Catholic social teaching alive and carry out Jesus' mission to "bring glad tidings to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free" (Lk 4:18).

Caps for Kids

The NWI Catholic newspaper is accepting donations of new/handmade winter caps, gloves, mittens & scarves for its annual ***Caps for Kids Campaign***.
These donations are sorted and distributed to area needy by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, social service agencies, and other groups. Monetary donations also help in the purchase of these items. Donations are being accepted through December 19 at the Pastoral Center, 9292 Broadway, Merrillville IN 46410.
Call (219) 769-9292, x249 or email: *seuvino@dcgary.org.*

Altar & Rosary Society

Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner

Wednesday, December 10th
6:30 p.m. in the Solar Room
All ladies of the parish are invited to join us.
The evening will begin with the Rosary at 6:45 pm, followed by a short meeting, dinner, a Christmas presentation and Gift Card Door Prizes.
Ladies attending are asked to bring their favorite main dish, salad or vegetable.
Altar & Rosary will provide the desserts.

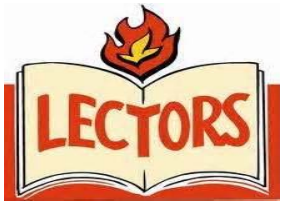
Please bring new children's hats, scarves and/or gloves.

For information, please call Therese (219) 844-7715 or Kathleen (219) 972-0539.

Bulletin Articles

Regular bulletin schedule requires all articles be submitted to bulletin@stm-church.com
at least 2 weeks in advance via email .
Any article submitted with less than a 2 week lead-time may not be included in the desired bulletin. Thank you for your help.

Lectors & Greeters for the Week



Saturday, December 6
5:30 pm Mass
Steve & Gloria Pestikas

Sunday, December 7
6:30 am Mass
Cal Bellamy & Jayne Gardner

8:00 am Mass
Judy Buksa &
Christine Irene Greenberg

10:00 am Mass
Julius Ballanco & Mike Skurka

12:00 Noon Mass
Leonard & Valerie Czapkowicz

Monday, December 8th
Immaculate Conception
5:00 pm Mass
Jim Hus & Louise Younkers
7:00 pm Mass
Ann Harkenrider & Joe O'Brien

Saturday, December 6
5:30 p.m. Mass
Main: Bill & Chris Retseck
Chapel: Carol & Don Kopenec
Choir: Ed Lebryk &
Judy Millspugh

Sunday, December 7
6:30 am Mass
Main: Leilani Suchanuk
Chapel: Tom & Linda Brady

8:00 am Mass
Main: Dennis & Karen McNeil
Chapel: Art & Mary Halpin
Choir: Rosemary Barker

10:00 am Mass
Main: Mike & Lee Ann Mellon
Chapel: Miller Family
Choir: Joe Arent

12:00 Noon Mass
Chapel: Kreig Family
Choir: Sandee & Justice Whittemore

St. Thomas More School

Thank You "Under the Sea" Casino Night Committee

As with any event at St. Thomas More School, we would not be able to enjoy the benefits of a wonderful event if it were not for the vision and hard work of a dedicated committee and many volunteers.
We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following Casino Night Committee for many hours of planning, working and execution to create a wonderful "under the sea" evening for all those who attended, and for our students who will reap the benefits of your labors.
A big thank you, too, for those who helped make the evening a success by volunteering their time to work a shift at the event.
We appreciate each and every one of you and thank you for your commitment to St. Thomas More School!

Chairpersons
Kristin Peters
Renee Whelan

Committee Members
Chris Companik
Katie Connelly
April Dilbeck
Tom Hemingway
Eliza Krawczyk
Wendy Krucina
Kris Miller
Shannon Pischner
Colleen Shaw

Basket Makers
Special thanks to
Eliza Krawczyk & Yvonne Stodulski
Brenda O'Shea
Mike & Candee Walsh
Dorita McCabe
Vicky Odegaard
Sheri Zuccarelli
Aisha Miller
Yolanda Rosales
Teresa Brazzale
Gina Boleski
Jane Mrvan
Leeann Mellon
Susan Payne

Food Committee
Katie Connelly
Wendy Krucina
Dan Rusnak
Tammy Kaim
Christine Rozmanich
Perla Araujo
Chris Friis
Cindy Friis
Lupe Papanikolaou

Special Thanks to:
Karla Baldwin & Staff
Noreen Bickel
Jennifer Gonzalez
Chet Nordyke
Dale Slosser & Staff
Sandra Steele
Susan Strain
Fr. Mike Yadron

Master of Ceremonies
John T. Peters

Special Gratitude to the Dyer Knights of Columbus
Frank Behr & Mike Kulik

These Clever Turkeys Escaped the Thanksgiving Table

Thanks to the clever ingenuity of our third graders, these cleverly disguised Thanksgiving turkeys managed to evade the holiday dinner table. Keeping with St. Thomas More School tradition, our third grade students each year try to mask the true identity of a turkey by "dressing" it in a costume that will trick the eye. As always, these crafty camouflages did the trick. Great job Third Grade!

Christmas Flower Memorials

Donations for Christmas Flower Memorials will be taken until

Friday, December 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Please return this form, or use the envelope in your packet, with your donation.
Place in the collection basket or return to the Parish Office no later than December 12th.
Extra forms will b available in the office. Each memorial is $10.00.

In Memory of_____

Donated by_____

Amount Enclosed ($10 Each) $_____

STM Career Networking Group

80% of Jobs are Unadvertised
82% of Jobs are found through Networking
15% Found through Search Firms • 10% Found through Want Ads
4% Create Their Own Jobs • 2% Blindly Send Resumes

Thursday, December 18, 2014

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

It's All About Hope!

With the holidays upon us this is a presentation all about hope; staying hopeful & how to become hopeful during this time of year.

Where: STM Weis Center
8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN
When: The 3rd Thursday of Every Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Email: STMCareerGroup@gmail.com

Regular Meetings are Free! Open to All!

For those who are *unemployed* (in transition), new to the job market, employed but changing careers or those who can offer employment opportunities through their current professional connections.
Have your cover letter, resume or thank you note critiqued by a professional.

STM Travelers Club

A Fireside Christmas

Fort Atkinson, WI •December 18, 2014 7:00 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.

The Travelers will be making a special Christmas trip to The Fireside Inn in Fort Atchison, WI on December 18th to attend the well-known Fireside Christmas show in a theatre-in-the-round. Our travelers will enjoy a delicious luncheon and some last minute Christmas shopping.

Senior Citizens

Senior citizens of our parish are invited to join our group. Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. in the Kish Community Room, 10000 Calumet Avenue in Munster (unless otherwise noted).

Thursday, December 11th

Christmas Luncheon
12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at Tiebel's Restaurant in Schererville.
Holiday entertainment performed by the *Chansonettes*.
Luncheon for members who have made an advanced reservation.

2105 Schedule of Events

Wednesday, January 7th

Business Meeting followed by social time with cards and board games.

Wednesday, January 21st

Social Gathering & Bingo

Wednesday, February 4th

Business Meeting. Guest Speaker will be a Representative from the Treasure Chest Foundation.

St. Vincent De Paul Society

Zacchaeus accepted the Lord joyfully and as a sign of his acceptance, he opened his house and provided gifts for the poor. Just as Zacchaeus opened his heart and provided for the poor so have you, the parishioners. This year your monetary contributions allowed us to assist **501 families amounting to 1097 persons** with rent and utility assistance. **Thank You!**
As Thanksgiving draws near, please consider a donation to our food pantry showing your love for our Lord by helping a hungry neighbor.

Current needs of the pantry include:

Stuffing Mix	**Canned Fruit**	**Jell-O**
Cake Mixes	**Canned Meat**	**Pudding**
Frosting	**Canned Yams**	**Cereal**
Cranberries	**Canned Pumpkin**	

Happy Thanksgiving!

Andrean Entrance Exam

Andrean High School is holding its first
Entrance Exam for the Class of 2019 on
Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 8:00-11:30 a.m.
All incoming freshmen are required to take the exam before admittance to Andrean High School for the 2015-2016 school year.
Please enter through entrance M in the back of the school and bring two #2 pencils. **There is NO FEE for our exam.**
No calculators allowed. No pre-registration required.
For more information contact Dawn @
(219) 887-5281, ext. 228 or admissions@andreanhs.com.

Holy Name Society

Real Men Pray!

Please join us for our next meeting on
Monday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m.
in the Solar Room.
We will begin with the Rosary, followed by our regular business meeting and refreshments.
Yearly dues can be paid by mail, the weekly collection basket or in the Parish Office.
All men of the parish are invited and encouraged to attend.

Save the date for the annual Fish Fry on February 27, 2015.

Bishop Noll News

Open House

Come tour our campus, meet our faculty and see why Bishop Noll Institute is a Four-Star School.

Thursday, December 11th
6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m
1519 Hoffman in Hammond
Questions? Contact BNI at (219) 932-9058.

Spaghetti Dinner

The BNI Band is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, December 14th from 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. in the BNI Cafeteria. Tickets are $7 per person. Please enter at Door C. Proceeds will help raise money for the band. Don't forget to join us for a free concert following the dinner in the auditorium. Please join us.

Free Band & Choir Concert

A free Band & Choir Concert will be held in the Bishop Noll Auditorium on Sunday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m.
1519 Hoffman Street in Hammond, IN. All are invited.

BNI 2014 Reach for the Stars Fall Raffle

Grand Prize: $20,000 Cash
2nd Place Prize: $5,000 Cash (or 1 year's BNI tuition)
3rd Place Prize: $2,000 Cash • 4th-7th Place Prizes: $500 Cash
Donation: $10.00 • Drawing: December 2, 2014
Tickets are available in the Parish Office.

Events in the Area...

Christmas Wigilia Meal

The Polish Women's Alliance is hosting a Wigilia Meal on Saturday, December 6th at the Carmelite Banquet Hall, 1628 Ridge Road in Munster. Doors open at Noon. Dinner at 1:00 p.m. Adults-$35/ Children-$17.50. Reservations due by December 1st. Call Delphine Huneycutt at (219)218-4420.

Virgin De Guadalupe Bi-Lingual Mass

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 10701 Olcott Avenue in St. John, proudly presents a Bi-Lingual Mass honoring the Virgin de Guadalupe on Saturday, December 13, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. Celebrant will be Rev. David Kime. Mariachi Juvenil Zamora y Aztec & Folklorico Dancers will perform with fellowship & Pan de Dulce to follow. Lady of Guadalupe statues will be blessed.

Advent Morning of Reflection

The Whiting/Robertsdale Community invites you to an Advent morning of spiritual renewal on Saturday, December 6th from 8:45-11:30 a.m. at the Sacred Heart 'Rose Room', 1731 LaPorte Avenue in Whiting. Rev. Jerry Schweitzer will be the guest speaker. Prepare your heart for our blessed Savior's birthday. Coffee, cake and conversation will follow. There is no charge for the day, but a freewill offering will benefit the Whiting St. Vincent DePaul Society. Call Margaret at (219) 659-4138.

All Saints' Thift Shop

All Saints' Thrift Shop has a special Christmas Shop that will be open on Sunday, December 7th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Visit the Thrift Shop at 570 Sibley Street in Hammond.

Homemade Pierogi

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, corner of Ridge & White Oak in Munster, is offering a weekly Pierogi Sale. Orders must be received prior to Thursday of the pick-up week. Pick-up on Friday afternoons, Noon to 4:00 p.m. at the church. To order, call (219) 838-9811 (leave your name, phone & quantity/flavor desired). Potato, kraut, cheese or prune. Cost: $9/dozen & $4.50/half-dozen.

Pancake Breakfast at St. Stan's

The Holy Name Society at St. Stanislaus in East Chicago is hosting a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 14th from 7:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall, 4930 Indianapolis Boulevard in East Chicago. Mini-Christmas bazaar, vendors and a cash raffle. All are invited.

Give the Gift of Music this Christmas

Looking for a unique holiday gift? The St. Cecilia Choir of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in East Chicago has two CDs available for purchase - "Joy at Christmas Time" and "Spirit" (a collection of favorite hymns). The choir, under the direction of John Evans, performs songs in both Polish and English. The CDs are $20 each or $35 for both. For more information or to place an order, call Cathy Evans at 219-688-5310 or catherinemary1209@gmail.com.

New Year's Day Bingo

Ring in the New Year at St. Mary Griffith's New Year's Day Bingo on Thursday, January 1st in Hildebrandt Hall. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. Early birds at 1:00 p.m. Regular bingo at 2:00 p.m. $10,000 in cash prizes. Free dinner with a set-up. Cost: $35/single set-up, $50/double or $60/triple. Reservations: (219) 922-2283.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 **7:00 pm** Blue Army Chapel **7:00 pm** Schola Church **7:00 pm** Vocations Conference Room	**2** **8:30 pm** **All School** **Mass of the Toys** **9:15 am-6:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel **1:00 pm** Prayer/Vocations Chapel **6:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet Chapel **7:00 pm** RCIA-Conference Rm **7:00 pm** Gabriel Project	**3** **9:30 am** Bible Study Conference Room **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **5:00 pm** RCIC Conference Room **6:00 pm** Handbell Practice Church	**4** **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **7:00 pm** All Seasons Chorale Church	**5** **9:00 am** Gifts of Love/Warmth Conference Room **6:00 pm** **STMS** **Pizza with Santa** **Gym**	**6** **8:00 am** First Saturday Rosary Church **7:00 pm** **STMS Junior High** **Dance** **Gym**
7 **6:00 pm** Taizé Prayer Church **No Vigil Mass** **This Evening**	**8** **Immaculate** **Conception of the** **Blessed Virgin Mary** *Masses at* **6:30 & 9:00 am** **5:00 & 7:00 pm** **Market Day Pick-Up** **Gym 5:00-6:00 pm** **7:30 pm** Knights of Columbus Solar Rm	**9** **8th Grade** **Confirmation** **Retreat** **8:15 am-2:30 pm** **9:15 am-6:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel **1:00 pm** Prayer/Vocations Chapel **6:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet Chapel **7:00 pm** RCIA-Conference Rm **7:00 pm** Baptism Prep Teachers' Lounge	**10** **9:30 am** Bible Study Conference Room **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **5:00 pm** RCIC Conference Room **6:00 pm** Handbell Practice Church **6:45 pm** Altar & Rosary Society Solar Rm **7:00 pm** SVDP Conference Room	**11** **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **7:00 pm** All Seasons Chorale Church **7:30 pm** **STMS** **Band Concert** **Gym**	**12** **9:00 am** Gifts of Love/Warmth Conference Room **9:30 am** **STMS** **Band Concert** **Gym**	**13** **9:00 am** Pastoral Council Conference Room **10:00 am** Oblates Teachers' Lounge **10:30 am** VIRTUS Training Solar Room
14 **6:00 pm** Taizé Prayer Church	**15** **7:00 pm** Holy Name Society Solar Rm **7:00 pm** Religious Formation Conference Room **7:00 pm** Blue Army Chapel **7:00 pm** Schola Church	**16** **9:15 am-6:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel **1:00 pm** Prayer/Vocations Chapel **6:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet Chapel **7:00 pm** RCIA-Conf Room **7:00 pm** **Penance Service**	**17** **9:30 am** Bible Study Conference Room **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **5:00 pm** RCIC Conference Room **6:00 pm** Handbell Practice Church **7:00 pm** Parent Association Solar Rm	**18** **4:30-6:00 pm** Religious Ed Classes **7:00 pm** All Seasons Chorale Church **7:00 pm** Career Networking Weis Center	**19**	**20**
21 **6:00 pm** **Lessons &** **Carols** **Church**	**22** **7:00 pm** Blue Army Chapel **7:00 pm** Schola Church **7:30 pm** Knights of Columbus Solar Room	**23** **9:15 am-6:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel **1:00 pm** Prayer/Vocations Chapel **6:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet Chapel	**24** **5:30 pm** **Vigil Mass for** **Christmas**	**25** **A Very Blessed &** **Merry Christmas!** *Masses at:* **12:00 Midnight** **6:30 am, 8:00 am** **10:00 am** **12:00 Noon** 	**26**	**27**
28 ***St. Vincent De Paul*** ***Food Collection*** ***at All Masses***	**29** **7:00 pm** Blue Army Chapel	**30** **9:15 am-6:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel **1:00 pm** Prayer/Vocations Chapel **6:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet Chapel	**31** **5:30 pm** **Vigil Mass** **Nativity of the Lord**	**January 1, 2015** **Nativity of the Lord** **Happy New Year!** *Masses at:* **12:00 Midnight** **6:30 am, 8:00 am** **10:00 am &** **12:00 Noon**		