“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

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 455-9258
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 836-8610
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, January 17

5:30 p.m. Fr. Ted Mauch

Sunday, January 18

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

Servers

SATURDAY, January 17

8:30 am E. Korwek, X. Cano
5:30 pm M. Queroz, J. & W. Roe, G. & I. Scalzo
MC ~ Nick

SUNDAY, January 18

6:30 am N. Brough, C. & P. Olsen
8:00 am E. & M. Buksa, J. Cipowski, E. Gossman, G. Kenning/ MC ~ Scott
10:00 am C. & M. Osmulski, D. Zuccarelli, A. Berkley, J. Bevil/ MC ~ Will
12:00 pm J. & M. Blanford, L. Cabrales
MC ~ Tim

Bulletin Articles

Please note that all bulletin articles must be submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance via email to:
bulletin@stm-church.com

Sacrificial Offerings

Thank you for your generosity and stewardship toward our parish!

December 28, 2014

Adult	**$ 19,216.00**
Loose	**$ 1,183.00**
Children	**$ 194.39**
TOTAL	**$ 20,593.39**

January 1, 2015
Solemnity of Mary

Adult	**$ 13,389.00**
Loose	**$ 1,687.00**
Children	**$ 9.15**
TOTAL	**$ 15,085.15**

January 4, 2015

Adult	**$ 20,737.00**
Loose	**$ 970.00**
Children	**$ 109.64**
TOTAL	**$ 21,816.64**

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, January 11 — *The Baptism of the Lord*
6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am James J. Knesek Sr. by Serrano Family
10:00 am James Cecil Barton by Kathy & Tom Bassetto
12:00 pm Dorothy Ferrantella (Ann.) by Family

MONDAY, January 12
6:30 am Lois Strain by Carolyn & Don McGill
8:30 am Mary Alice Becker by Victoria Magas

TUESDAY, January 13 — *St. Hillary*
6:30 am Reba Brown (Ann.) by Sylvester & Kathy Porras
8:30 am Keith E. Trotman (Ann.) by Ruth Banas
10:00 am Robert Banicki by STM Holy Name Society
(MASS AT MED-INN CHAPEL, Group 3)

WEDNESDAY, January 14
6:30 am Sr. Ann Christine Kozlowski by Tony & Marilyn Standerski
8:30 am Ljubica Kirincic by Family

THURSDAY, January 15
6:30 am All Souls Day Intentions
9:00 am Michael Torres (Ann.) by Serrano Family

FRIDAY, January 16
6:30 am Ada Antoniolli by Victoria Magas
8:30 am Gerald Skonieczny by Joslez Family

SATURDAY, January 17 — *St. Anthony*
8:30 am Hector Porras (Ann.) by Sylvester & Kathy Porras
5:30 pm Walter V. Bracich (Ann.) by Joseph & Carole Janusonis

SUNDAY, January 18 — *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*
6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am Andrew Caruso by Dave & Laurie Phelps
10:00 am Michael Jurkash (Ann.) by John Jurkash & Family
12:00 pm Delfina Cabrera (Ann.) by Cabrera Family

Rest in Peace

Louis S. Chronowski

Readings for Week of January 11

Sunday: Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/1 Jn 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

The Baptism of the Lord

"I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." That was a lowly job. Removing someone's sandals back in the days when everyone walked everywhere on dusty, sandy desert ground was a dirty task. So when John the Baptist said he wasn't even worthy for that humble duty, he was emphasizing an important point.

John understood Jesus' real identity. He knew that this was not just another good man, not just a wise teacher or a gifted leader. John realized that Jesus was truly God-made-man. And because of this, the prophet also comprehended how perfect Jesus was. In relation to this perfection, John honestly acknowledged his own sinfulness with this analogy about the sandals. But look what happened: even though John proclaimed that "one mightier than I is coming after me," Jesus showed up at the Jordan River and asked John to baptize him! Jesus humbled himself by going through this ritual of cleansing and purification, even though he didn't need to. John may have thought himself unworthy, but that didn't stop Jesus from coming to him.

Jesus wants to come to us too. Not because we have "earned" his love or because we are "worthy" of some great honor, but simply because he loves us. God sent his Son to us to be one of us, to walk among us, to care for us and guide us. When we were baptized, he counted us among his beloved children in a special way, but that joyful bond is not a thing of the past. By our baptism we are always his children, even when we may be disobedient or belligerent ones. His love is not calculated or quantified; it is a free gift. May we appreciate this gift enough to show our gratitude by a life well lived.

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
Paul Burns
Dorothy Campbell
James Campbell
Thomas Cak
Al Carollo
Carol Carollo
Janet Cattanach
Jacqueline Morrow Christian
Frank Coman
Vincent Corsello
Mike Curtain
Margaret Demkovich
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
Shirley 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
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
Marty Pavovic
Johanna Petruch
Andrew Pieczyrak
Elizabeth Pilones
Sylvester Porras
Timothy Ribble
Jackie Roach
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
Kathryn Slack
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
Charlotte Weglewski
Stephanie Wisniewski
Don Woszczynski
Cecilia Ziegler
Cody Ziemkowski

Weekly Schedule

MONDAY, January 12

Market Day Pick-Up in the Gym from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

7:00 pm Blue Army ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Schola ~ Church
7:00 pm Peace/Social Justice ~ Conference Room
7:00 pm Religious Formation ~ Teachers' Lounge
7:30 pm Knights of Columbus ~ Solar Room

TUESDAY, January 13

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 Baptism Preparation Class ~ Teachers' Lounge

WEDNESDAY, January 14

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 Practice ~ Church
7:00 pm Catholics Coming Home ~ Teachers' Lounge
7:00 pm St. Vincent De Paul ~ Conference Room

THURSDAY, January 15

4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 pm)
6:30 pm Scripture Study ~ Classroom # 101
7:00 pm All Seasons Chorale ~ Church
7:00 pm Career Networking Group ~ Weis Center

FRIDAY, January 16

9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth ~ Conference Room

SUNDAY, January 18

6:00 pm Taizé Prayer Service ~ Church

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.

Catholics Coming Home

If you have been away from the Church and would like to find your way back to your church home, then join us for this session of Catholics Coming Home.
Rediscover a way to reconnect with your Faith.
We will talk about God, Faith, the Sacraments and Vatican II.
Sessions began on January 7th, but you are welcome at any time. We meet regularly in the Teachers' Lounge on

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm.

Come by yourself or bring a friend. Each session is about an hour long. Come yourself or mention this to a friend.
Register in the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610.

HIS GENTLE LOVE

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put my spirit;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,
not crying out, not shouting,
not making his voice heard in the street.
a bruised reed he shall not break,
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,
until he establishes justice on the earth;
the coastlands will wait for his teaching. (Is 42:1-4)

The Baptism of the Lord, as with many other moments of Jesus' birth and life, "ushered in" a totally different understanding of God and God's Kingdom coming into the world.

Before Jesus, many people waited expectantly for a Messiah to come. However, their idea of a Messiah was that of a warrior-king who would help them to defeat their many enemies and establish the Lord's people as a world power for all generations.

Perhaps it was because they had spent so many generations wandering in the desert. Maybe it was because they had been defeated by enemy upon enemy. It might have been because they had no real ruler of their own. Whatever the case, their Messiah would be one who would bring the people together and establish them as a force to be dealt with.

That was not the way of God.

Jesus was not born in powerful circumstances. He was not born in a palace among the elite. He was born in a stable filled with animals. The people who came to look upon Him were not wealthy, they were poor shepherds. His birth did not usher in a new world order. His birth brought about death as King Herod slew many children in hope that Jesus would be one of the victims.

As Jesus was ready to come into His own as a man, He did not come to claim any power. He presented Himself, in all humility, to John the Baptist to be baptized in the Jordan River. John did not want to baptize his cousin. John recognized who Jesus was. But Jesus wanted to fulfill His Father's plan and insisted upon baptism.

We are not supposed to crave power, wealth, or prestige. Instead, we are supposed to want to serve in all humility all the people who come into our lives. God's Kingdom is a Kingdom of love and peace, not of iron rule and domination.

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord today, let us ask God to give us the grace that we need to live out our own baptismal promises.

FAITH ACTION: Reject Satan, all his works and all his empty promises today. Believe in the Lord and proclaim His Kingdom by word and deed.

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:

January 11:	Rev. Ambrose E. Switzer (1967)
	Rev. George A. Masley (1969)
January 12:	Rev. Henry J. Ameling (1970)
	Rev. Joseph A. Buczyna (1976)
January 14:	Rev. George J. Naudzius (1963)
	Msgr. Alvin J. Jasinski (1969)
January 16:	Deacon Joseph Kwitko (2004)

The soul is regenerated in the sacred waters of baptism and thus becomes God's child.

~ St. Maximilian Kolbe

Taizé Prayer is a quiet, reflective half-hour of song, scripture, and silence designed to help us focus on God in our midst and to thank Him for His wonderful presence.

If you have not come to a Taizé service yet, mark your calendar for next Sunday, January 18th, at 6:00 p.m. in the church.

We would love to see you.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A man happened upon a baptismal service on Sunday afternoon down by the river. Out of curiosity, he walked down into the water and stood next to the minister.

The minister noticed him and said, "Are you ready to find Jesus?"

The bystander looked back and said, "Yes. I'd like to try."

The minister dunked the fellow under the water and pulled him right back up. "Have you found Jesus?" the minister asked.

"No, I didn't," the bystander replied.

The minister then dunked him under for quite a bit longer, brought him back up, and said, "NOW have you found Jesus?"

"No, I did not, Reverend."

The minister, in disgust, held the man under for at least 30 seconds this time brought him out of the water and said in a harsh tone, "My God, have you found Jesus yet?!"

The bystander wiped his eyes and said to the minister, "No, I didn't. Are you sure this is where he fell in?"

Religious Education

January Schedule

14/15	Class
21/22	Class
28/29	Class

February Schedule

4/5	Class
11/12	Class
14	***Sacrament of First Penance at 9:30 a.m.- Church***
18/19	***No Class — Ash Wednesday***
25/26	Class

High School Youth Ministry

Attention all high school youth!

The STM High School Youth Ministry has a new name:
1Direction 2God (1D2G)
and we have lots of exciting new events ahead.

Cosmic Bowling

Lan Oaks Lanes (2524 Ridge Road in Lansing, IL)
Friday, January 16th — 9:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m.
Cost — $3/game (plan to bowl 2 games). Shoe rental — $2.50.
Please bring money for any snacks you wish to purchase.
We need a final count of who will be bowling, so please let us know you will be attending ***no later than Monday, January 12th.***
Contact Miss Hackett (219) 836-8610, ext. 332 or
email: ehackett@stm-school.com to reserve your spot.

1Direction 2God

will be presenting

Living Stations of the Cross

for the parish during Lent this year. Any high school student is welcome to take part in this exciting and spiritual project. We will need actors, narrators, singers, musicians, and directors. There are many different ways for you to use your talents and there is something for everyone who wants to be involved. We will be having a callout meeting in the Solar Room on
Sunday, January 25th from 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
We need to start planning soon and hope to see you all there!

Holy Name Society

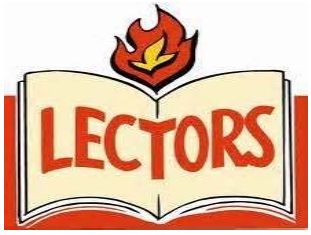
Real Men Pray!

Please join us for our next meeting in the Solar Room on
Tuesday, January 20th at 7:00 p.m. (note date change)
We will begin with the Rosary, followed by our regular business meeting and refreshments. All men of the parish are invited and encouraged to attend. Please pay your yearly dues. Dues can be paid by mail, the weekly collection basket or dropped off in the Parish Office.

Upcoming Events:

Next meeting: February 16th • Fish Fry: Friday, February 27th.

Lectors for the Week



Saturday, January 17
5:30 pm Mass
Jennifer Jones Garner &
Rob Mangus

Sunday, January 18
6:30 am Mass
Mark & Gabriella Bittner

8:00 am Mass
Christine Irene Greenberg &
Richard Lasky

10:00 am Mass
Jesse Montenegro &
Terri Tratar

12:00 Noon Mass
Richard & Sylvia Komyatte

Greeters for the Week

Saturday, January 17
5:30 pm Mass
Chapel: Chuck & Chris Shearman
Choir: Bill & JoAnn Karr

Sunday, January 18
6:30 am Mass
Main: Marcia Autry
Chapel: John & Francis Plisky

8:00 am Mass
Main: Paul & Jan Liszewski
Chapel: Salisbury Family

10:00 am Mass
Main: Andrea Mazerik
Chapel: Ron & Diane Adley
Choir: Madeline Mikolanis

12:00 Noon Mass
Main: Tola & Regina Akinsanya
Chapel: Susan Anglin

Vocations Committee

What is a Priest?

Do you know that a priest is a gift of God to man, and of man to God?
He is the hand of God's mercy, a reflection of God's love!
Nothing can be greater in this world than a priest, nothing but God, Himself.

Parish Appreciation Dinner

Moving to the Month of May

Due to the inclement and unpredictable winter weather of the past few years, the decision has been made to move our Parish Appreciation Dinner to the more pleasant month of May.
Watch the bulletin for all the exciting details to come.
We hope to see you in the spring!

St. Thomas More School

The Secret to a Well-Rounded Child:

A Catholic education that incorporates a curriculum of outstanding academics, spiritual and intellectual development, the arts and athletics.

Why send your child to St. Thomas More School?

- "A" rating and fully accredited by the Indiana Department of Education and AdvancED with licensed faculty and dedicated staff
- Roman Catholic values stressed in a safe and caring environment with Sacramental preparation, regular attendance and participation in Mass Exemplary academic curriculum
- State-of-the-art technology with computer lab, mobile laptop & tablet carts; interactive white board technology in every classroom (Bring Your Own Device program for 7th & 8th grade)
- Full-day or half-day preschool, pre-k and kindergarten
- Departmentalized learning in grades 5 to 8 with honors classes beginning in 6th grade
- Small class sizes with an average 19/1 student to teacher ratio
- Special Services Department providing additional academic aid for students
- Full-time art, music, physical education and Spanish teachers
- Before and after school care
- School security system and safety procedures
- Athletics beginning in 5th grade for boys and girls: basketball, cross country, soccer, track and volleyball
- Extra-curricular clubs & activities: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Art Club, Chess Club, Math Club, Science Olympiad teams and Science Club
- Music: Award-winning band, choir & acclaimed fall musical
- National Junior Honor Society with peer tutoring
- Student Council
- Annual events: Education Fair, D.A.R.E. training, Walk-a-thon, Dances & more
- Student Community Service Projects
- Active Parent Association with many family social events
- Tuition Reduction Incentive Program & family tuition discounts
- Indiana Choice Scholarship accepted

There's more to a great education than the ABCs

Join us for an

Open House

Visit us and see why St. Thomas More School students excel in and out of the classroom.

Sunday, January 25th
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Tuesday, February 24th
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

St. Thomas More School
Main School Building:
8435 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN
Weis Center Preschool & Pre-K:
8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN
(219) 836-9151 • www.stm-school.com

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Pam Pasyk at:
(219) 836-9151, # 309 or ppasyk@stm-school.com

Andrean High School News

Open House

Andrean High School is hosting an Open House for prospective students and their families on

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Come meet the Andrean family! Administration, faculty and staff will be available for questions and tours of the building will be given by our students. Please enter through entrance L in the back of the school. For answers to your questions, please contact Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, Dawn Wojkovich at (219) 887-5281, ext. 228 or admissions@andreanhs.com.

Entrance Exam

Andrean High School is having a second Entrance Exam for the Class of 2019 on

Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

The exam will end at approximately 11:30 a.m. All incoming freshmen are required to take the exam for the 2015-16 school year. Please enter through entrance A in the front of the school and bring two #2 pencils. There is no pre-registration required, and there is NO FEE. Also, no calculators are allowed. For more information go to www.andreanhs.com or contact Dawn at (219)887-5281 ext. 228 or admisions@andreanhs.com.

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, January 15, 2015

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Round Table Discussion

- What most concerns you?
- What can Networking do to help you?
- How are you proactive?
- What are you doing to set yourself apart?
- What is the hardest part of a job search?

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.

Bishop Noll Institute

Entrance Exam

Bishop Noll Institute will be holding an Entrance Exam for all students interested in joining our student body in 2015 on

Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 8:00 a.m..

1519 Hoffman Street in Hammond, IN

Enter through the main school doors.

Please bring two #2 pencils, a calculator and valid identification (ID).

Exam fee is $20 if registered in advance ($25 at the door). For more information or to register, please contact Bishop Noll at (219) 932-9058.

Religious Formation

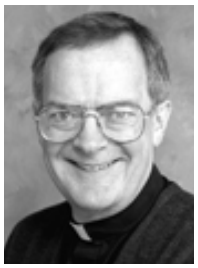
& Education Commission

Join the St. Thomas More Religious Formation & Education Commission as they present an informative and entertaining evening with

Fr. Gerald Schweitzer

as he discusses

Pope Francis: Document of Evangelization.



Wednesday, January 21, 2015

in the Chapel.

Mass begins at 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Schweitzer's presentation will follow.

Fellowship and light refreshments will conclude the evening.

Please join us. All are welcome.

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).

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, January 21st

Social Gathering & Bingo

Monthly Luncheon

Monday, January 26th at 11:30 a.m.

Cracker Barrel Restaurant
7750 Corinne Drive in Hammond
(southwest corner of Kennedy Avenue & 1-80/94, next to the Indiana Visitors Center).
No reservations are needed, just come and enjoy the company of our Seniors group while dining.

Wednesday, February 4th

Business Meeting. Our guest speaker for this meeting will be a representative from the Treasure Chest Foundation.

Saturday, February 21st

Pizza Party from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Solar Room for all current members.

Wednesday, March 4th

Business Meeting. Our guest speaker will be a representative from the Social Security Administration.

St. Vincent de Paul

The holiday season has shown the warmth of the hearts of our parishioners, both young and old!

Through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring God's love and mercy to 110 families at Thanksgiving and 96 families at Christmas including food baskets, hats, gloves, scarves and Christmas gifts.

Many received utility or rent assistance as well.

Special thanks to the St. Thomas More School children for their donation of food and toys, the Boy Scouts and the STM Youth Group for their hard work assisting us in packing and distributing the donations, the adult volunteers who assisted in collecting, sorting and packing gifts, and the parishioners for food donations that overflowed our bins and warmed the hearts of others!

Happy New Year!

You Did It For Me

Jaime* wanted to live near her grandparents as they grew older, but couldn't find a place she could afford on her part-time, minimum-wage salary. She came to Catholic Charities looking for a little extra to help cover rent and learned about a program that could help her apply for a better job. She's now in classes that will improve her skills and looking forward to having her own place very soon. That's just one of the many services provided by Catholic Charities agencies in communities across the nation, who together provided services that build hope to over 9 million individuals last year alone.

To learn more, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org.

Gabriel Project

As we reflect back on the year 2014 we would like to say thank you to our parish families and parish ministries and organizations for your support.

Your generous donations of a washer and dryer, sofas, chairs, end tables, TV's, vacuums, cribs, pack'n'plays, strollers, swings, car seats, high chairs, rocking chairs, bottles, bottle warmers, diaper bags, toys, baby clothing, blankets and all the other baby items you provided us with have helped many women and their families in the midst of a crisis pregnancy.

Please know that we only deliver the items; through ***your*** generous donations and monetary support, it is ***you*** that bought shoes and a winter jacket for a homeless mom and ***you*** that provided a meal for her when she was hungry. ***You*** gave beds to a family with 3 children that were sleeping on the floor and ***you*** also bought them food when the food pantries were closed. ***You*** are the one who purchased clothes for a young mom going to her first job and ***you*** bought numerous boxes of diapers and formula for our babies.

We also thank you for all the prayers for our moms who were considering or being pressured into having an abortion and praying for our premature babies. God truly heard your prayers! The Lord has blessed us with 15 moms in 2014 and we feel very privileged to have served them. Without your help we could not have reached out to all these mothers and babies.

May God bless you,

The Gabriel Project Team

Knights of Columbus

Thank You

The St. Thomas More Monsignor Weis Council of the Knights of Columbus extends their heartfelt thanks to all who purchased a Christmas tree, wreath or garland during our recent sale. Thanks to you we had one of our best years yet! Thank you!

Pancake Breakfast

Don't miss our annual Pancake Breakfast on

Sunday, January 25th

from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Gym.

As usual, we will be serving our delicious pancakes, accompanied by our famous sausage, juice, coffee and milk.

Cost: Free will donation.

And don't miss our raffle, with a total cash pay-out of $1,000.

Come before or after most Masses and don't forget to attend the

St. Thomas More School Open House

from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon.

Nursery Help Needed

The STM Nursery is in need of adult and high school volunteers to assist in the nursery during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. If you can help, please contact Kaaren Mashura at (219) 836-5079 or kaarenann@aol.com.

STM Travelers Club

It is amazing how fast time passes and it is hard to realize that we have now planned one-day trips for seven years! Our trips have been successful because of the enthusiastic response from those who travel with us. Our parishioners are a cheerful & fun-loving group and we thank everyone for their support and loyalty.

Actually, we ended up having as much fun as our travelers did! This past year we went to the popular Flower Show at The Navy Pier, had tours of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, The National Shrine of Mother Cabrini in Chicago, toured the spectacular Sanfilippo Collection of antique music machines in Barrington, IL, walked the historic streets of Cedarburg, WI and ended up the year with a fantastic Christmas Musical in a theatre-in-the-round with a delicious dinner in Fort Atkinson, WI.

What a terrific schedule it was!

Your excitement has encouraged us to begin our plans for more exciting trips for 2015.

Note: We do not plan trips for the months of January, February and March due to uncertain and often severe winter weather/travel conditions.

We have some exciting ideas for next year, so look for information in the Sunday bulletins this March, when we will announce our first trip for April 2015.

Have a happy and healthy New Year and may God bless all our parishioners and their families with inner peace and happiness.

Our appreciation and loving thoughts,

Lois, Pat and Mary

Events in the Area...

Homemade Pierogi

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church (Ridge & White Oak)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. Call (219) 838-9811 (leave name, phone & amount/flavor). Potato, kraut, cheese or prune. Cost: $9/dozen & $4.50/half-dozen.

St. James the Less Happenings

The St. Pope John Paul II Knights of Columbus Council 16008 of St. James the Less in Highland is sponsoring several upcoming events:

Youth Free Throw Contest

Boys and girls, ages 9-12, are invited to participate in Free Throw Contest on Saturday, January 17 at the Lincoln Center in Highland. The contest will be held from 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Anyone interested can contact Dan Mills (219) 801-5250 for more information.

Chili Cook-Off

The Knights are hosting a Chili Cook-Off on January 21st from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. in the church hall. For more information please call Robert Mikuly at (219) 776-8773 or Dan Lelito at (219) 218-7466.

Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance

The Knights will be hosting a Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance Party at St. James Parish Hall on Saturday, February 14th. The cost is $60/couple and includes a dinner buffet, dessert table, favors, music provided by a DJ and a cash bar. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and dancing will follow from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight. Tickets will be sold in advance ONLY. You may contact Bob Satanek at (219) 742-7013 or Robert Mikuly at (219) 776-8773 to buy your tickets. Limited space is available so get your tickets now.

For more information about any of these events, please contact Dan Mills, Knights of Columbus St. Pope John Paul II Council 16008, at (219) 801-5250 or email: dmills1126@comcast.net.

Annual All-You-Can-Eat Soup

St. Andrew Church is sponsoring their Annual All-You-Can-Eat Soup Kitchen, Salad Bar & Bake Sale in Ameling Hall, 801 West 73rd Avenue in Merrillville on Sunday, January 25th from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Adults-$7.00, Seniors (62+)-$6.00, Children (12 & under)-$4.00. Family Plan (2 Adults + children) is $18.00. Carryout: $7.00/quart, $4.00/pint

Proceeds to the Deacon George Modrak Tuition Assistance Fund for Aquinas School at St. Andrew's Parish.

World Marriage Day Dinner Dance

Love is in the air for all married couples.....at the WWME World Marriage Day Dinner Dance on February 7th. Held at the Carriage Greens Country Club, 8700 Carriage Green Drive in Darien, IL from 6:00 p.m.- 11:00 p.m., the dinner menu will consist of sirloin of beef, baked boneless chicken, mostaccioli with marinara sauce, soup or salad, coffee and tea. Cost is $60/couple with a cash bar available. Enjoy plenty of dancing and a "longest married couple" competition. To make a reservation, contact Liz Bowling at (630)579-1634 or email: Liz_Bowling@yahoo.com.

Retrouvaille Marriage Weekend

Few of the more than 10,000 couples who enroll in marital-skills programs each year ever imagined they'd find themselves in these circumstances. On a Retrouvaille weekend, spend time learning strategies for airing grievances and sustaining intimacy while free from everyday distractions. Follow-up Post Sessions held on 7 consecutive Sundays will build upon the communication skills of the weekend and include additional relationship building and conflict management techniques. All facets of the program are led by couples who have rebuilt their own relationship.

Retrouvaille of Northwest Indiana will host its next weekend February 13-15, 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn of Chesterton. Do not lose hope! For more information, call (708) 802-1830 or (800) 470-2230. Confidentiality is guaranteed. Find additional dates and locations at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.