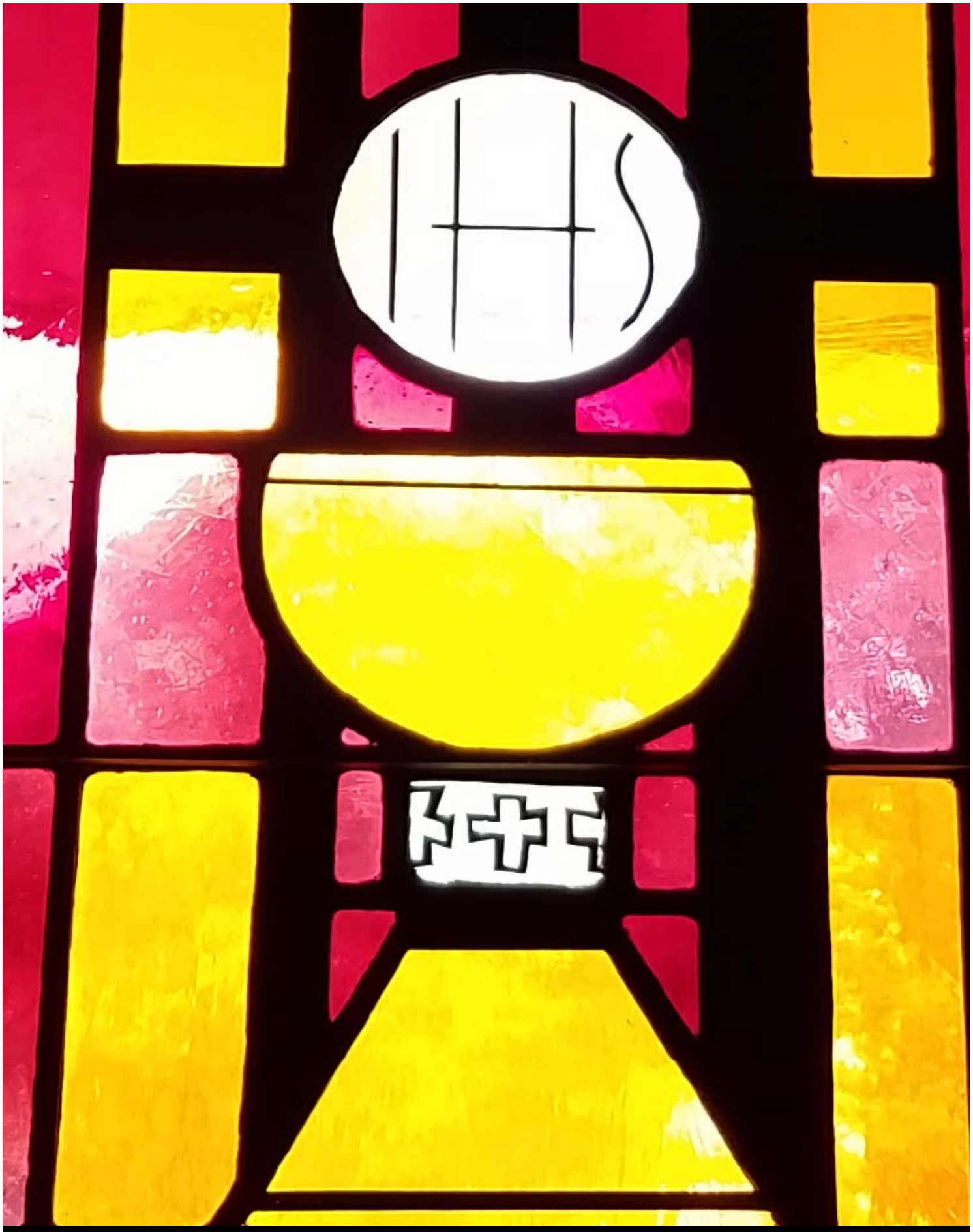


If God and good works do not rank high on your list,
for the sake of your salvation, make sure to re-prioritize.

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 Jordan C. Fetcko; Ext. 314
jfetcko@stm-church.com
Senior Deacon.....Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS
Senior Deacon..... Daniel Zurawski, KHS
Deacons .....David Kapala, KHS
.....Joseph Stodola, KHS
Director of Finance..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Pastoral Care Coordinator.....Deacon David Kapala, KHS; Ext. 315
Director of Music.....Angie Lorandos; Ext. 338
Director of Religious Education ..... Emily Hackett; Ext. 332

Parish Office Staff

St. Thomas More Parish Website: **www.stm-church.com**

Hours: Mon-Friday 8:00 am-8:00 pm • Saturday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
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……...Mike Popovich 836-8610

Pastoral Ministries

Environment & Art ..... Susan Gryfakis 688-8209
Eucharistic Ministers .....Deacon Dan Zurawski 742-6005
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

2017-2018 Pastoral Council Members

Thomas Alexander..... Diane DeSoto
Deborah Jarvis .....Wendy Jasinski
Tim Jevyak.....Jim Kaspar
Nancy Klawitter, Chairperson.....Paul Liszewski
Kurt Popovich.....Jim Secviar, Co-Chairperson
Dwight Reed..... Cheryl Staniszewski

St. Thomas More School

Pre-School through 8th Grade
Office Hours: Monday– Friday ~ 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Website .....www.stm-school.com
School Phone ..... 836-9151 School Fax..... 836-0982
President ..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 330
Principal.....Jay Harker; Ext. 328
Assistant Principal ..... Cynthia Block; Ext. 328
School Administrative Assistant…….. Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 328
School Reception & Office Associate……. Sandra Steele; Ext. 329
School Parent Association……..Shannon Pischner; (219) 306-7551
Parish & School Offices Associate ..... Mary Jo Biscan; Ext. 311
School Admissions .....Pam Pasyk; Ext. 309
Director of Development…… .Karen Leluga; Ext. 307

Weis Center — Preschool & Pre-K

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 .....Rosemary Strimbu; Ext. 336
Grades K through 8 ~ Wednesday or Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Pastoral Commissions Chairpersons

Formation/Education.....Allen Blocher
Parish Life .....Elaine Herrmann
Peace & Social Justice..... Mari Casas
Spirituality & Worship .....Kaaren Mashura
Stewardship..... Paul Liszewski

Parish Organizations

Altar & Rosary Society .....Cindy Keilman 923-9862
Boy Scouts ..... PJ Caraher (219) 838-2943
Career Networking Group…… Christine Spencer 836-8610
Circle of Prayer……..Mary Jo Humpfer 836-5002
Cub Scouts ……...Kevin Ranos Kevin.ranos@sbcglobal.net
Finance..... Barbara Shaver 838-9200
Gabriel Project…….... Marilyn Glennon 836-8610
Garden Club .....Paul Mazerik 644-8409
Gifts of Love & Warmth……..Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544
Girl Scouts.....Renee Whelan 796-6809
Holy Name Society 836-8610
Knights of Columbus ..... Jim Landowski (708) 204-4690
Oblates……...Denise Gard (219)201-4103
Respect Life .....Leslie Dernulc (219)741-3739
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, February 10
5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

Sunday, February 11
6:30 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
8:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
10:00 a.m. Fr. Jordan Fetcko
12:00 Noon Fr. Jordan Fetcko

Servers

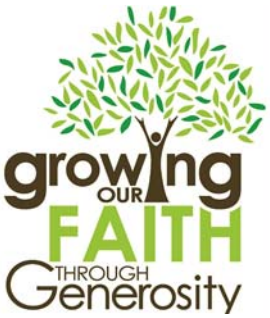
SATURDAY, February 10
8:30 am A. & S. Contro
5:30 pm G. & I. Scalzo, A. Kleszynski/ MC ~ Jacob C.

SUNDAY, February 11
6:30 am E. & M. Miller, T. Pappas
8:00 am M., G. & L. Buksa/ MC ~ Elizabeth B.
10:00 am Boy Scout Servers/ MC ~ Ricky
12:00 pm J. & M. Blanford, E. Korwek/ MC ~ Tim

Pastoral Care Ministry

The Pastoral Care Ministry is composed of caring lay ministers whose primary function is to distribute the Eucharist to parishioners. To arrange for a Pastoral Care visit for a hospitalized or homebound family member, please contact Deacon Dave Kapala at (219) 836-8610, # 313 or dkapala@stm-church.com.

Sacrificial Offerings



January 28, 2018

Adult	**$ 20,701.00**
Loose	**$ 2,678.00**
Automated	**$ 2,813.00**
Children	**$ 205.29**
TOTAL	**$ 26,397.29**

Thank you for sharing your treasure with our parish!

CSA Tax Receipts

Tax Receipts for your CSA 2017 contributions can be requested at http://www.dcgary.org/csa.htm or by calling Maria in the CSA Office at 219-769-9292 x 291. Thank you for your contributions.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, February 4 — *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am Ed & Jean Hreha by Children
10:00 am Carmen Garcia (Ann.) by Serrano Family
12:00 pm Elvira Ferrara (Ann.) by Daughters Tina and Maria

MONDAY, February 5 — *St. Agatha*
6:30 am Intention of Edgar Farinas by Ferrer Family
8:30 am William Peterson by Wife & Family

TUESDAY, February 6 — *St. Paul Miki & Companions*
6:30 am Joseph Oblon (Ann.) by Robert & Virginia Gauger
8:30 am Siang "Julieta" Yu by Helen Rich
10:00 am Lillian Jackson by STM Altar & Rosary Society
(MASS AT MED-INN CHAPEL, Group 2)

WEDNESDAY, February 7
6:30 am Margaret Waters by Gryzbek Family
8:30 am Amanda L. Serrano (Ann.) by Serrano Family

THURSDAY, February 8 — *St. Jerome Emiliani*
6:30 am Dorothy Giannini by Elaine Caporale
9:00 am Rufino Aquino Sr. (Ann.) by Aquino Family

FRIDAY, February 9
6:30 am William P. Kvasnica Sr. by STM Holy Name Society
8:30 am Joseph Drozdzynski by Ann Simants

SATURDAY, February 10 — *St. Scholastica*
8:30 am Marianne Hodor by Andersen Family
5:30 pm William Gerlach (Ann.) by Wife Dona & Family

SUNDAY, February 11 — *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased
8:00 am Ernie Ritz by James & Debra Walsh
10:00 am Bertha Pepa Struble (Ann.) by Daughter Shirley
12:00 pm Joseph Neverauskas by Wife Josephine

Vocations Committee

Please read, memorize and repeat often each day:

To Jesus, Divine Shepherd

O Jesus, Divine Shepherd of souls, you called the apostles to be fishers of men.
Move now the ardent and generous hearts of our youth and make them your followers and ministers.
Let them share your thirst of universal redemption for which you renew your sacrifice on the altar everyday.

Bulletin Deadlines

Please submit all bulletin articles at least two (2) weeks in advance to: bulletin@stm-church.com.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For most of us, the dynamic between prayer and action is imperfect. Breakfast needs to be made and the kids dressed. Work demands our energy and additional responsibilities fill our evenings and weekends. Then there's the football game or a new TV series to stream. After all, don't we need to relax?

We're all busy. But just imagine Jesus' situation in today's Gospel. He heals Peter's mother-in-law, drives out demons, and cures diseases late into the night. With very little sleep, he arises before dawn to capture some peace and quiet, only to find "those who were with him pursued him." How often do we feel pursued by the harried commitments, even when we try to seek rest? Perhaps we can learn something from the response of Jesus. Jesus models two key things: the essential nature of prayer and the essential call of vocation. "He went off to a deserted place, where he prayed." Despite inevitable exhaustion, Jesus prioritizes time with the Father. We might not have easy access to deserts and mountaintops, but today's Gospel challenges us to take intentional time set apart for God. We can designate a "prayer chair" in a corner of our home or leave a little earlier to pick our children up from school so we can snatch time in a nearby chapel. We can pray the rosary on our commute or take the dog for a long walk in silence.

However, when the Apostles arrive, Jesus doesn't linger overlong in the deserted place or make an excuse for why he can't return with his friends. Jesus is true to his calling. He continues on in his state of life, serving the people nearest to him. Like Jesus, we are invited to set intentional time for communion with God so that we can be refreshed and empowered for our communion with others.

Please pray for the sick of our parish...

Joshua Alvarez
Margaret Amatulli
Mary Anhalt
Doris Aurelio
Maria Aurelio
Antonio Belmonte
Mary Berry
Michael Berry
Michael Billedo
Michael Blazevich
Laverne Blumka
Cheryl Bostrom
Linda Braun
Stephany Burney
Kathleen Burns
Paul Burns
Dorothy Campbell
James Campbell
Thomas Cak
Al Carollo
Janet Cattanach
Jack Chevigny
Jacqueline Morrow Christian
Willie Colby
Vincent Corsello
Mike Curtain
Eleuterio Del Real
Irene Dettmer
Ann DeVoy
MaryPat Devoy
Jeanine Doescher
Patrick Doran
Alex Eiland
Sherlon Evans
John Forde
Phyllis Garber
Andrea Garritano
Margaret Geary
Emily Gibson
Dorothy Gillespie
Margaret Good
Monica Gonzalez
Howard Gralewski
Margaret Gray
Susan Graff
James Grunewald
Mary Ellen Gullicks
Amy Hayes
Eleanore Heggi
Marie Henke
Marisol Hernandez
Robert Hesek
Becky Hill
Mary Jo Humpfer
Charlotte Hunt
Betty Ingbretson
Joseph S. Iwan
Steve Izzo
Dennis Jablonski
Elizabeth Jacob
Barbara Jamrose
Stanley Jayjack
Robert Kalka
Carol Keilman
Kelly Jean
Mark Kenney
Irene Kerps
James Klein, Sr.
Janet Knight
Susan Kolodziej
Paul Kostalik
Isabella Lappo
Annika LeMonier
Chris LeMonier
Debbie LeMonier
Nicklas LeMonier
Mike Lewis
Kris Lisikiewicz
Jo Lisiniewicz
Edward Liskiewicz
Stanley Liskiewicz
Maria Lovell
Marilyn Madsen
Brady Martin
Larkin McKenzie
Jenny Mendoza
Faye Meny
Sandi Merlo
Erin Meyer
Ann Miskovich
Andrew Moll
Genevieve Mrvan
Donna Nichols
Steven Nowaczyk
Clare O'Brien
Donna O'Connor
Valerie O'Donnell
Kevin O'Neill
Danny Ogren
Maryann Pancheri
James Pancheri
Marty Pavovic
Johanna Petruch
Andrew Pieczyrak
Elizabeth Pilones
Ron Plewniak
Sylvester Porras
Dennis Powell
Ronald Prus
Jerry Reach
Timothy Ribble
Jackie Roach
David Rossin
Ann Sardella
George Sauer
Marie Schultz
Marianne Schwartz
William Schwartz
Zachery Scriff
James Secviar
Jim Seul
Renee Shehan
Ruth Siorek
Nick Skinner
Carolyn Smiley
Deborah Stareck
Georgianne Suto
Florence Stevens
Rose Theis
Sam Totten
Gerardo Trevino
Kathie Trudgian
Anthony Ubuane
Tony Vanden Heuvel
Raymond Vanderbok
Julia Vrbanich
James Wachel
Marilyn (Vrabel) Warda
Mark Wein
Stephanie Wisniewski
Don Woszczynski
Josephine Zagrocki
Cecilia Ziegler
Cody Ziemkowski

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY, February 4
Catholic Schools Week — Celebrating Those Special to STMS

MONDAY, February 5
5:30 pm Handbell Practice (until 6:45 pm) ~ Church
6:30 pm Marian Rosary ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Schola ~ Church
7:00 pm Parish Life ~ Conference Room

TUESDAY, February 6
9:15 am Eucharistic Adoration (until 6:30 p.m.) ~ Chapel
1:00 pm Prayer/Vocations ~ Chapel
6:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Chapel
7:00 pm RCIA ~ Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, February 7
9:30 am Bible Study ~ Conference Room
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 p.m.)
5:00 pm RCIC ~ Conference Room

THURSDAY, February 8
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 p.m.)
6:15 pm Scripture Study ~ Conference Room
6:45 pm All Seasons Chorale ~ Church

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

SATURDAY, February 10
10:00 am Oblates ~ Conference Room
7:00 pm ***STMS Junior High Dance ~ Gym***

Oblates

Join us for the next meeting of the St. Thomas More Oblates of St. Benedict
Saturday, February 10th
10:00 a.m. in the Parish Conference Room
All are welcome and guests are encouraged to join us, too!

Readings for Week of February 4

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/ Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/ Mk 7:24-30
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45

THE VICTOR HAS ALREADY BEEN DECLARED!

"It's ridiculous for a country to get all worked up about a game — except the Super Bowl, of course. Now that's important." ~ Andy Rooney

Super Bowl Sunday was always big days in our household. My dad and my brothers would go into the living room laden with all their Super Bowl goodies: pop, chips, dip, cookies, sandwiches, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. My mom and I, on the other hand, would camp out at the kitchen table with our favorite games: Scrabble, Scribbage, and Yahtzee. We would play until our favorite part of the day. That would be halftime.

Halftime back then was truly magnificent. They would always have the best of the best college marching bands putting on wonderful musical performances. Unlike the often cheap and tawdry shows of today, those halftime performances were magical.

For many people, Super Bowl Sunday is almost like a religion. There is a certain worship kind of quality to what they say and do on that day. And they wait, not-so-patiently, for the moment when a winner is declared. Then they begin their wait for next year because, after all, it is not over. The battles begin again. Someone is going to win and someone is going to lose.

We have a winner whom we can proclaim consistently. We do not have to wait for any annual competition. We do not have to worry about our winner ever losing. Losing is not a part of our winner's vocabulary. Our winner, of course, is none other than Jesus Christ.

The only "Super Bowl Sunday" that ever really mattered was that ultimate "Super Bowl I" when Jesus Christ defeated the enemy — sin and death — by rising from the dead, effectively destroying death and restoring life.

Some people treat sports, jobs, hobbies, or many other things, as more important than the faith. It is okay to enjoy "the game", don't get me wrong. But, let us never get to the point where other things become more important than God.

He is the ultimate victor who has ensure our salvation. To Him be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen!

FAITH ACTION: Take some time today to examine your priorities. What is truly important to you? If God and good works do not rank high on your list, for the sake of your salvation, make sure to re-prioritize.

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:

February 4:	Rev. Stephen J. Vrabely (1994)
	Reverend John Beckmann (1996)
February 5:	Rev. Vincent E. Eckert (1978)
February 6:	Deacon Alexander Saims (2008)
February 8:	Msgr. Frederick J. Westendorf (1963)
	Rev. Robert E. Emmons (1965)
February 10:	Rev. Edward Kennedy (2007)

COMING SOON

I know that it is hard to believe; however, Lent will soon be upon us. Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday, February 14th. Remember, Ash Wednesday is a Day of Fast & Abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Fasting allows for only one full meal to be taken during the day. Two smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength according to one's needs. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday and who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday.

Abstinence is the practice of refraining from meat and meat products. Abstinence is to be practiced by all who are 14 years of age and older.

Throughout Lent, there are additional prayer opportunities for you.

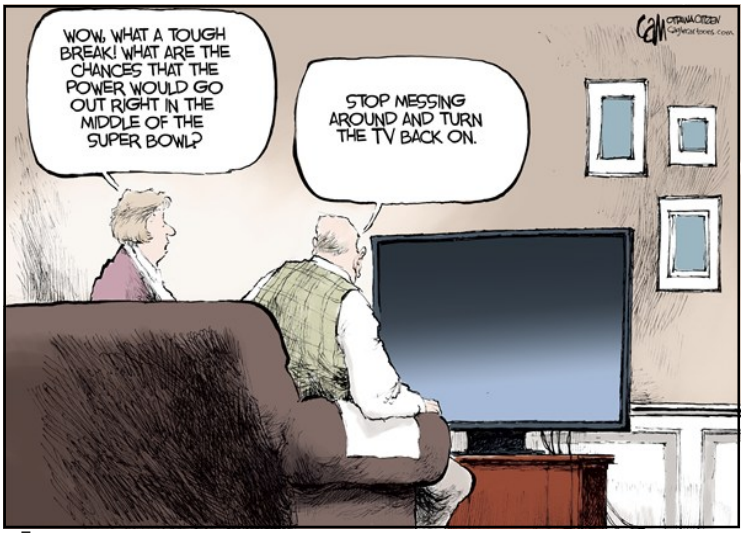
† **Ash Wednesday Masses** are at 6:30 and 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14th.
† **Taize Prayer** will take place every Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the church (with the exception of Ash Wednesday).
† **School Stations of the Cross** will take place each Friday of Lent at 2:15 p.m.
† **Parish Stations of the Cross** will take place each Friday of Lent at 7:00 p.m.
† **Confessions** for the student body will take place on Tuesday morning, March 20th, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.
† Our **Lenten Penance Service** will take place on Tuesday evening, March 20th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

"Do not think that love in order to be genuine has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired. Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." ~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A football coach once was asked his secret of evaluating his new recruits.

"Well," he answered, "It's easy. I take 'em out in the woods and make 'em run. The ones that run around the trees, I make into running backs. The ones that run straight into the trees, I turn into linemen."



Religious Education

February

7/8	Class
14/15	**No Class — Ash Wednesday**
21/22	Class
28	Class

March

1	Class
3	**First Penance — *10:00 a.m. in the Church***
7/8	Class
11	**Family Formation Session**
	1:00-2:00 p.m. in the Gym
14/15	Class
21/22	Class
23	**Confirmation Practice — 5:30 p.m.**
24	**Confirmation — 10:30 a.m.**
28/29	**No Class — Spring Break**

April

4/5	Class
11/12	Class
18/19	Class
25/26	Last Class (except 3rd Grade First Communicants)

May

2/3	**Communion Practice**
	Both classes must attend on both nights.
5	**First Holy Communion — 10:00 a.m.**

Nursery Schedule

The Nursery is now open during the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Brides Room (off the narthex).
Open to children age infant to 5 years old.
Register your child/ren on Sunday morning before Mass.

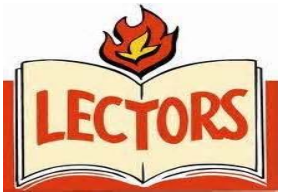
Sunday, February 11
Kaaren Mashura
Jennifer Bosewell
Allison Rusnak
Daniel Pastor

Sunday, February 18
Jennifer Anderson
Kaaren Mashura
Daniel Pastor

Sunday, February 25
Susie Kinsella
Mary Karl
Aubrey Rivera
Daniel Pastor

Volunteers are always needed. If you would like to help with this enjoyable ministry, please call Kaaren at (219) 836-5079.

Lectors & Greeters for the Week



Saturday, February 10
5:30 pm Mass
Joe Dubczak &
Richard Gard

Sunday, February 11
6:30 am Mass
Angela Kvasnica & Phil McIntosh

8:00 am Mass
Kristin Ball & Richard Lasky

10:00 am Mass
Boy Scouts

12:00 Noon Mass
Julie Blanford & Cheryl Suwardi

Saturday, February 10
5:30 pm Mass
Chapel:
Rob & Dorothy Mangus

Sunday, February 11
6:30 am Mass
Choir: Tim & Karen Rutz

8:00 am Mass
Main: Paul & Jan Liszewski
Chapel: Mary Silvasi

10:00 am Mass
Main: Marisol Martinez
Chapel: Diane Adley & Joan Mucha
Choir: Madeline Mikolanis

12:00 Noon Mass
Main: Diane Gralewski
Choir: Pat Batchelder

Registration is Now Open

Join the St. Thomas More School family!

Registration is now open for the 2018/2019 school year and some classes are expected to close early, so don't delay.
Join us for our next

Open House on Tuesday, February 20

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the main school and the Weis Center.
or call to schedule a personal tour by contacting Pam Pasyk at (219) 836-9151, etc. 309 or ppasyk@stm-school.com.
We hope to see you soon!

St. Thomas More School

The Start of Something Big!

The St. Thomas More School Science Olympiad Team kicked off their season with an educational (and fun) overnight trip to the Indiana Dunes State Park in early December for extra learning and bonding time. And it's been great ever since! Stay tuned to hear about their many successes coming soon!

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

St. Thomas More School

Annual Cash Raffle

St. Thomas More School cash raffle tickets will be on sale in the church narthex after all Masses

February 17 & February 18

and

March 3 & March 4, 2018.

Please support STMS academic programs, enrichment activities, and classroom upgrades by purchasing raffle tickets.

Last year, we made history by raising over $25,000 through this raffle. With your help, we can surpass $25,000 this year!

Check out these amazing cash prizes for just a $20 raffle ticket!

1st prize: $5,000
2nd prize: $3,000
3rd prize: $1,000
10 — $100 prizes

Winners will be drawn and announced at the Parish Appreciation Dinner, April 7, 2018, 8:00 p.m. *(winners need not be present)*

Thank you in advance for helping to make our St. Thomas More School Raffle a success!

Gabriel Project

Needs Your Help!

We are trying to help one of our Gabriel Project moms with her move into a new apartment. Unfortunately, her apartment has no appliances or furniture provided for her.

If you or someone you know has a stove, refrigerator, couch or rocking chair available to donate, please contact Clare McCullough at (219)712-1940.

You will be assisting a young family get established by helping them furnish their home.

Your help would be most appreciated by our mom and her infant.

Thank you, as always for your generosity.

Event at St. Thomas More

Watch the bulletin for a great event happening at our parish on ***February 24 & February 25***.

You won't want to miss it and you'll want to get involved.

Calling All STMS Alumni

Alumni, Parents, Children & Friends

If you haven't heard from us recently, we may not have accurate contact information.

Don't miss any important and fun alumni events.

You can submit updates for yourself, your children, relatives or friends by contacting Karen Leluga at kleluga@stm-school.com or (219) 836-9151, ext. 307 and watch for events that may pertain to your STMS graduating class soon.

St. Vincent de Paul

The coldest months of the year are upon us and we want to insure that all in our area, young and old, have enough food.

Please consider donating to the SVDP Pantry.

To learn more about the SVDP Society at St. Thomas More, or to become a volunteer, please contact SVDP President Mike Martinelli at (219) 836-8610.

We would love your help to further our mission to help others in our community.

We are very grateful for the generosity of our parishioners.

Before you donate items to our SVDP Food Pantry, please:

check packages for expiration dates and the integrity of the packaging.

We cannot accept items that are expired or which have already been opened.

Thank you for helping us help others!

Our Pantry Needs:

Peanut Butter • Jelly
Crackers • Soup
Mac & Cheese
Tuna • Canned Meats
Canned Fruit
Laundry Soap
Dish Soap
Shampoo
Adult & Children's
Tooth Brushes & Toothpaste

Item Most Needed:
Dish Soap

Senior Citizens

All meetings are at 1:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) at the Kish Community Room • 10000 Calumet Avenue • Munster. Join us for our monthly luncheons, too.

Membership Dues are only $10/Annually.
Please submit dues ASAP, if you haven't already. Thank you.

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, February 7th
Business Meeting
Guest Speaker: Noreen Bickel
St. Thomas More School President &
Parish Finance Director

Saturday, February 17th
Pizza Party
12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Solar Room
Cost: Free for paid members (dues must be current)
Our meal will be provided by Rico's Pizza.
Please bring the following, according to your last name:
A to K: Side Dish or Salad
L to Z: Dessert

Wednesday, March 7th
Business Meeting
Guest Speaker: Linda Curley —Purdue Extension
Topic: "The Mastery of Aging Well"

Saturday, March 17th
Happy St. Patrick's Day
Pot Luck Luncheon
12:00 Noon — 4:00 p.m. in the Solar Room
Cost: Free for paid members (dues must be current)
Our meal will be provided by Strack' N'Van Til (Chicken).
Please bring the following, according to your last name:
A to K: Dessert
L to Z: Side Dish or Salad

Sunday, March 25th
Palm Sunday
8:00 a.m. Mass & Breakfast
Honoring Our Deceased Members
Breakfast to follow in the Cafeteria.
Cost: $5/person. Reservations required.

Wednesday, April 11th
Business Meeting
Election of Officers for the 2018/19 Year

Wednesday, April 25th
Social Gathering

Wednesday, May 2nd
Spring Luncheon and Installation of New Officers
12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Reservations Required • Location to be Announced

Wednesday, May 16th
Social Gathering

Wednesday, July 18th
Seniors Picnic
12:00 Noon — 4:00 p.m. at the Weis Center

Watch the bulletin for details regarding upcoming events.

Holy Name Society

Join us for our next regular meeting
Monday, February 17, 2018
7:00 p.m. in the Solar Room
All men of the parish are invited to attend.
Our discussion will include the upcoming Fish Fry & Raffle on Friday, February 23.
Pizza and refreshments to follow the meeting.
Not sure you want to join?
Come to our next meeting and see what we're all about!

Religious Formation/Education Commission

All meetings at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.
Our next meeting:
Monday, February 19, 2018
Scheduled Meetings for 2018:

February 19, 2018	May 21, 2018	October 15, 2018
March 19, 2018	August 20, 2018	November 19, 2018
April 16, 2018	September 17, 2018	June/July : No Meetings

STM Career Networking Group

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

Thursday,
February 15, 2018
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Round Table Discussions

Where: STM Weis Center
8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster
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.

It's Fish Fry Season!

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Friday, February 16, 2018

4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Gym.

Menu:

Battered Cod (2 pieces)—$10 • Baked Cod (2 pieces)—$10
Shrimp—$10 • Child Portion Dinners—$5

All Dinners include:

French Fries • Bread & Butter • Coffee • Condiments
Serve-Yourself-Sides: Cole Slaw, Salads, Beets, Mostacolli & Seasoned Fries
Pop, Desserts, Beer & Wine will be available.

********** **50/50 Raffle** **********

Proceeds support scholarships for STMS graduates attending Catholic high schools, SVDP Thanksgiving turkeys, local Seminarians, Gabriel Project, Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts, Planting Possibilities, Campagna Academy and more.

Holy Name Fish Fry & Raffle

Enjoy another delicious Fish Fry this Lenten season!

Friday, February 23, 2018

4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Gym

Menu:

Battered Cod (2 pieces)—$10 • Baked Cod (2 pieces)—$10
Shrimp—$10 • Child Portion Dinners—$5

All Dinners Include:

French Fries • Bread & Butter • Coffee • Condiments
Serve-Yourself-Sides: Cole Slaw, Salads, 3-Bean Salad & Beets.
Pop, Desserts, Beer & Wine will be available.

Mary's Way of the Cross

Make your Lenten journey special this year by joining this weekly reflection. Journey with Mary on her "Way of the Cross" as she embodies Christ's vocation to be a disciple of unwavering faith and trusting surrender. Relive the journey to Calvary, with Mary's assistance, as she teaches us to take up our own cross and follow Jesus in a spirit of limitless love and undying hope. Let us walk Jesus' last steps with his mother; Let our faith deepen and allow Jesus to rise once more in our lives!

Thursday Mornings after the 9:00 a.m. Mass:

Beginning Thursday, February 22

Thursdays: March 1, March 8, March 15 & March 22

Everyone is welcome!

Bring your friends! Make the most of this Lenten season.

Circle of Prayer

The Circle of Prayer ministry needs more members to respond to our many prayer requests. A phone call or email from a member and private prayer is all that is required. If interested in joining or for more information, please call Mary Jo Humpfer at (219) 836-5002.

Volunteers Needed

Play Bingo at Med-Inn in Munster

Volunteers are needed to play bingo with the residents on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 10:15 a.m. to Noon. If you are interested in helping others in this way, Mary Jo would love to hear from you at (219) 836-5002.

Pray the Rosary

Pray with members of Hartsfield Village in Munster on the last Monday of the month.

To volunteer in either area, call Mary Jo at (219) 836-5002.

Send Us Your Anniversary Info

Celebrate your love and share the joy of your marriage with our parish community!

Since great marriages don't just happen, you should be proud to tell everyone about yours.

Email your wedding photo, anniversary date and location of your wedding, plus any other information you'd like to share, to Pam Pasyk at ppasyk@stm-school.com. Your anniversary will be posted on the school/parish Facebook page.

Bishop Noll Entrance Exams

Bishop Noll Institute is now enrolling students for Fall 2018 and will host two entrance exams in February for prospective students at the school, 1519 Hoffman Street in Hammond.

Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.
Test & Shadow Day Combined

Students will take the exam, have lunch and stay to shadow a current Bishop Noll student for the remainder of the day.

Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.
Exam Only

Prospective students are to arrive by 7:45 a.m. the exam day of their choice.
Enter through Door A. Bring two No.2 pencils.
The exam is approximately 3.5 to 4 hours.
Exam fee is $25.
Parents may stop by the main office any time between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to complete the forms and make payment or do so on the date of the exam.
Walk-ins are welcome.
Need info? (219) 932-9058 or admissions@bishopnoll.org
Rated an "A" school by the Indiana Department of Education, Bishop Noll Institute posted the highest graduation rate of all accredited high schools in Lake County for 2017. In addition, BNI's four-year rate (for the classes of 2014-2017) also ranks highest among all high schools in the county.
Financial aid is available and transportation is offered.
Bishop Noll participates in the Indiana School Choice program.

Andrean High School

2018 Andrean Hall of Fame Induction & Sports Banquet
All are invited.
February 18, 2018
Cocktails at 4:00 p.m. • Dinner at 5:00 p.m. Cost is $45/person.
Contact Andrean to reserve your spot.

Join Our Flock!

The Pastoral Center for the Diocese of Gary has launched a Flocknote account.

Flocknote is a way for you to connect directly with the diocese through text messages or emails. When you sign up, you'll receive links to video messages from Bishop Hying, notifications about upcoming events and much more.
There are two ways to join:
You can visit www.flocknote.com/DioceseofGary and follow the sign-up steps ***or*** you can text the word "GARY" to the phone number "84576", which will take you to the sign-up page.
You don't have to download an app.
You don't have to pay to join.

(Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy & conditions at www.flocknote.com/txt.)

Northwest Indiana Catholic

Subscription Drive 2018

How much is staying current with your faith worth to you? Consider the value of bringing a Catholic publication into your home each week by renewing or starting a subscription to the award-winning Northwest Indiana Catholic, the newspaper of the Diocese of Gary.
A one-year subscription including our annual diocesan directory (a $15 value) is a bargain at the low price of $26. Read Bishop Donald J. Hying's weekly column; follow the words of Pope Francis; learn about spiritual opportunities, ministries and events in our own local parishes; and follow the progress of our diocesan synod implementation. Our Catholic faith is a strong voice in the world.
Here's a chance to read and be proud of all that is accomplished each week. The wealth of articles, photos and commentaries will educate, inspire and encourage reflection and conversation for all ages.
All this for less than $.60 a week!
Isn't it worth staying current with our Church?
Subscribe by March 23 by using the envelope provided in your collection packet or make your check out to **St. Thomas More** in the amount of $26 (please note that it's for the Northwest Indiana Catholic on the memo line) and drop it into the Sunday collection basket. To pay using your credit or debit card, go to our secure website at nwicatholic.com.

Right to Life

Upcoming Events

Oratory Contest Preparation

The annual Pro-life Oratory Contest for middle and high school students will take place this spring. If you'd like Lake County Right to Life to contact your school (please provide the name and all contact information of the English/Speech teacher), please contact us.
To download contest forms and applications, visit our website.

2018 Banquet Date Set

Mark your calendar for the 2018 Fundraiser/Banquet! Friday, April 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Avalon Manor Banquet Hall in Merrillville. More details to come.

Moms & Tots Resale Shop

Our new "baby" (a resale shop) is located at 110 W. Main St. in Griffith (a 501(c)(3), non-profit business). We will offer new or nearly-new, pristine clothing and accessories for women, infants and children up to size 5 (funds or clothing donations needed).
Lake County Right to Life: (219) 838-1138 or www.lakecortl.org

Events in the Area...

Wounded Healers

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one or friend, attend the next session of Wounded Healers and begin your healing process by sharing your burden with others & move forward in a positive way. Separate groups for those grieving the loss of a spouse or partner, child or grandchild, parent, sibling or friend. Beginner and advanced groups. All meetings are held on Wednesday nights at St. James the Less, Highland from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Upcoming meetings:
February 7 • February 21 • March 7 •March 21(with speaker).
Learn more about Wounded Healers at (219) 924-5577 or www.woundedhealers-nwi.com.

LOSS Meetings

LOSS (Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) offers monthly meetings at the Pastoral Center, 9292 Broadway in Merrillville on the 3rd Monday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Support for adults grieving the loss of a loved one to suicide. Trained facilitators will help you through the process in a safe, non-judgmental, non-denominational environment. (312) 655-7284.

Ethnic Bake Sale

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies are hosting an Ethnic Bake Sale on Saturday, February 10th, during St. John the Baptist Winter Festival in Whiting. Homemade bread, nut roll, roshky, nut cups, cakes, cookies and more will be available. Senior Day begins at 2:00 p.m. Come early for the best selection, we sell out quickly! All proceeds go directly back to St. John School.

Knights of Columbus– Highland

Valentine's Day Dinner-Dance: We are pre-selling tickets for our St. Valentines Day Dinner-Dance on February 17, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. - Midnight at St. James the Less. Tickets are $40 per person and are sold in advance ONLY. Includes dinner, open bar, dessert and DJ. For tickets or more info, please contact Dan Mill @ 219-801-5250 or Robert Mikuly @ 219-776-8773.

Pierogi Sales

Pierogi sales at St. Josaphat Church at Ridge & White Oak in Munster have resumed for 2018. To order these delicious pierogi, place order by Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and pick-up on Friday between Noon and 3:00 p.m. at the church. Leave name & quantity/flavor on answering machine at (219) 838-9811. Potato, kraut, cheese, prune. $10/dozen or $5/half.

Help Needed at Camp Sharing Meadows

Camp Sharing Meadows is recruiting for Counselors, Cooks, and Nurses for our Spring 2018 Mini-Camps (weekend camp for developmentally, intellectually disabled adults or other-abled friends). Contact Emily Barsic at 219-778-2585 or at camp@sharefoundation.org. Dates: February 9th-11th, March 9th-11th, April 13th-15th and May 18th-20th

OLG Alumni

Attention, ***all Our Lady of Grace alumni!*** Help us update our data base and don't miss out on reunions and all the exciting things happening at OLG. Visit our page and update your information at olgdevelopment@yahoo.com and watch FB, too.

Doughnut Dance (Paczki Ball)

Join St. Andrews the Apostle in Calumet City for their 46th annual dance featuring Polish cuisine and hundreds of paczki. Cash bar. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 10 in the Gym (156th & Freeland Avenue). Polka music by *The Music Company* beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets in advance at the church rectory, online at saintandrewparish.com or at the door for $15. Call (708) 862-4165 for info.

Events at St. James the Less

Book Club

Our relationship with God is a two-way street: talking to Him & listening to Him. Learn about this often overlooked aspect of our relationship with God – listening, as we read "How to Listen When God is Speaking" by Father Mitch Pacwa each Thursday in Lent beginning with February 22 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. (ending March 22). Sign-up & purchase the book on **February 8**. Cost is $11. Book Club info: Phyllis Steiner at (219) 934-0967.

Musical Tribute

St. James the Less in Highland is hosting an evening of musical tribute to American Folk, Broadway and 50s musical hits presented by Adam Gawlikowski & Friends, David Herr, Mark Frederick and Nicholas Perkins at the St. James Parish Hall on Sunday, February 11 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are $20 each of which 50% will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society. Light refreshments.

Events at St. Matthias

Carnivale : A Vegas Night Experience

Join St. Matthias for a fun night featuring table games, Jersey raffles, roulette, $ black jack & bingo, buffet, basket raffles, cash raffle, Paczki Parade, open bar & more on Saturday, February 10 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for $10 in advance or $15 at the door. Contact the parish office or jackiemgentry@yahoo.com for tickets and information. All proceeds to benefit the Catholic Education Programs.

Mardi Gras Family Fun Fair

Tuesday, February 13 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthias in Crown Point. Games, prizes, King & Queen Contest and affordable family meals. Bring the family and enjoy Fat Tuesday! Parish Office: (219) 663-2201.

Blood Drive

The American Red Cross makes it easy to give live-saving blood. The Bloodmobile will be located at Land 'O' Frost, 10109 Columbia Avenue (just off Calumet) in Munster, for a Blood Drive on Monday, February 26, 2018 from 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Call (800) RED-CROSS or go to redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: landofrost) to schedule your blood donation appointment. Lots of time slots are available and walk-ins are also welcome. Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Just one donor can save the lives of three people.

Inspiring Bible Study

St. Michael Church in Schererville will be hosting an inspiring *Bible* study, *The Bible & the Virgin Mary*, beginning February 21 in St. Patrick Social Hall. These 12 sessions, presented by their Adult Education Committee, will take place from 7:00-8:30 p.m. To register, contact Janice at (219) 322-4505, ext. 241 or jgatons@stmichaelparish.life.