

**Motherhood  
is not  
always the  
finished  
product.**

**Motherhood  
is about  
planning,  
hoping,  
longing,  
searching,  
dreaming,  
loving, and  
accepting.**

**As long as  
the heart of  
the mother  
remains  
open, God  
will supply  
all that is  
needed.**



**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. 2312  
myadron@stm-church.com  
Senior Deacons ..... David Kapala, KHS  
Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS  
Deacon ..... Joseph Stodola, KHS  
Director of Finance ..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 2330  
Pastoral Care Coordinator ..... Deacon David Kapala, KHS; Ext. 2315  
Director of Music ..... Angie Van Manen; Ext. 2338  
Director of Religious Education ..... Emily Hackett; Ext. 2232

**St. Thomas More Parish Website:** [www.stm-church.com](http://www.stm-church.com)

### **Parish Office Staff**

**Hours:** Mon-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm • Saturday 9:00 am –Noon  
**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. 2309  
Daytime Receptionist ..... Ext. 2300  
Evening Receptionist ..... Ext. 2300  
Building Maintenance ..... Mike Popovich 836-8610, Ext. 2313  
Custodial Supervisor ..... Kim Smith 836-8610, Ext. 2331

### **Pastoral Ministries**

Environment & Art ..... Helen Jaworski 836-8610  
Eucharistic Ministers ..... James Kaspar 836-8610  
Hospitality/Greeters ..... Vicky Odegaard 322-6391  
Lectors ..... Richard Gard 836-8610  
Nursery ..... Kaaren A. Mashura 836-5079  
St. Vincent de Paul ..... Terry Oprinovich 836-8610  
Vocations Committee ..... 836-8610

### **2022-2023 Pastoral Council Members**

Julius Ballanco ..... Bernadine Barrett, Chairperson  
Carolyn Cenko ..... Leslie Dermal  
Debra Harker ..... Christi Kordeck  
Katie Kordeck ..... Paul Liszewski  
Eric Miller ..... Jean Nanos  
Joe Peters ..... Daniel Straka

### **St. Thomas More School**

**Preschool through 8th Grade**

**Office Hours:** Monday– Friday • 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Website:** ..... [www.stm-school.com](http://www.stm-school.com)  
School Phone ..... 836-9151 School Fax ..... 836-0982  
President ..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 2330  
Principal ..... Dr. Samantha Francis; Ext. 2258  
School Administrative Assistant ..... Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 2200  
School Reception & Office Associate ..... Nereida Harretos; Ext. 2201  
School Parent Association ..... Kandace Mack (708) 415-4133  
School Admissions ..... Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309  
Director of Development ..... Karen Leluga; Ext. 2307  
Business Manager ..... Maria Vega; Ext. 2339

### **Weis Center**

**8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321**

Phone ..... 836-2660

### **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 6:00 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.

Stop in during the day, or take advantage of our convenient Saturday office hours.

### **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. 2232

Administrative Assistant ..... Cindy McMahon; Ext. 2236

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 ..... Sergio Sanchez (773) 412-3109  
Career Networking Group ..... Jim Kaczka (219) 201-0335  
..... or Donna Weidenfeller (219) 688-7597  
Circle of Prayer ..... Carolyn Cenko 741-2509  
..... carolynrealtor@sbcglobal.net  
Cub Scouts ..... Patricia Sinclair • plalessandrini@yahoo.com  
Finance ..... Barbara Shaver 838-9200  
Gabriel Project ..... Marilyn Glennon 801-6586  
Garden Club ..... (219) 836-8610  
Gifts of Love & Warmth ..... Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544  
Girl Scouts ..... Renee Whelan 796-6809  
Holy Name Society ..... Bill Burke: sbburke3@att.net  
Knights of Columbus ..... wgkchrisbedenk@gmail.com or (219) 595-2470  
Respect Life ..... Leslie Dermal (219) 741-3739  
Seniors of STM ..... Susan Oczkowski (219) 922-8313  
Ushers Club ..... Jim Marmalejo 718-8704

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



## Celebrants

**Saturday, May 20**

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

**Sunday, May 21**

6:30 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

8:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

10:00 a.m. Carmelite Father

12:00 Noon Carmelite Father

## Servers

**Saturday, May 20**

5:30 p.m. S. Rozmanich, J. Dye/MC ~ Alex

**Sunday, May 21**

8:00 a.m. A. & I. Tolnai/MC ~ Derek

10:00 a.m. G. & R. Santellano/MC ~ Ty

12:00 p.m. C. Aguilar, S. Ramirez/MC ~ Francesca

## Baptisms



**Bridget Catherine**

Daughter of Erik and Moira Frost

**Lincoln Rose**

Daughter of Scott and Erin Larko

**Lucas Diego**

Son of Jorge and Graciela Alcantar

## Rest in Peace

**James L. Klein, Sr.**

## Stewardship REFLECTION

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

*"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil."*  
1 PETER 3:17

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result we anticipated or an unforeseen problem arises.

Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!"

Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, May 14 — Sixth Sunday of Easter — Mother's Day**

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased

8:00 am Chester & Elizabeth Ross by Jim & Carol Zaczky and Family

10:00 am Living & Deceased Mothers

12:00 pm Stephen Cieslak by Paola Pescara

**MONDAY, May 15 — St. Isidore**

6:30 am Lillian & Tadeusz Jaworski by Family

8:30 am Jose Caraballo (Ann) by Wife, Juanita

**TUESDAY, May 16**

6:30 am Peter Jurich by Tom & Louisa Jurich

8:30 am Lorraine Leask by Barbara & Ray Blastic

**WEDNESDAY, May 17**

6:30 am Cotaminda L. Serrano (Ann) by Serrano Family

8:30 am Larry Monak by Monak Family

**THURSDAY, May 18**

6:30 am Lorraine Marie Leask by Altar & Rosary Society

9:00 am Linda Alvarado by the Garcia Family

**FRIDAY, May 19**

6:30 am Susan Orabone by Michael Mercier Family

8:30 am Beatriz Francisco (Ann) by the Aquino Family

**SATURDAY, May 20**

8:30 am Bert Sr. & Emily Woess by Bert Woess & Eileen Van Kavelaar

5:30 pm Bob Zurad by Patty Pfister & Catherine Pfister

**SUNDAY, May 21 — The Ascension of the Lord**

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased

8:00 am Elaine Caco (Ann) by Stephen & Family

10:00 am Marilyn Rippey by Niall & Maria McShane

12:00 pm Bernice Hill by Susan Kluga

## Bulletin Deadlines

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

## Sacrificial Offerings

**May 7, 2023**



Adult	\$ 20,375.00
Loose	\$ 2,240.00
Automated	\$ 4,935.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 27,550.00</b>

*Thank you for your generous support of our parish.*

## Readings for the Week of May 14

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1)/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

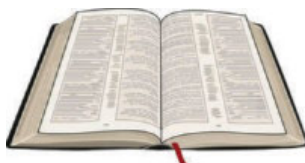
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: **Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20 **Seventh Sunday of Easter:** Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 (13)/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a



## Pray for the sick of our parish...

Dimitre Adich	Marie Henke	Bernadine Nemeth
Joshua Alvarez	Elaine Herrmann	Donna Nichols
Chiara Andrzejewski	Adelina Hernandez	Maria Novak
Doris Aurelio	Bertha Birdy Hernandez	Steven Nowaczyk
Maria Aurelio	Irma Hernandez	Clare O'Brien
Pat Batchelder	Marisol Hernandez	Donna O'Connor
Antonio Belmonte	Robert Heseck	Danny Ogren
Mary Berry	Becky Hill	James Pancheri
Michael Berry	Marie Hill	Marty Pavlovic
Michael Billebo	Joan Hoess	Judith Peterson
Diane Bochnowski	Sally Joy Hollingshead	Dawn Petro
Cheryl Bostrom	Charlotte Hunt	Johanna Petruch
Linda Braun	Betty Ingbretonson	Andrew Pieczyrak
Bill Briney	Joseph S. Iwan	Elizabeth Pilones
Grace Briney	Steve Izzo	Sylvester Porras
Stephany Burney	Elizabeth Jacob	Dennis Powell
Kathleen Burns	Barbara Jamrose	Ronald Prus
Diane Butler	Stanley Jayjack	Jackie Roach
Dorothy Campbell	Kelly Jean	Ann Sardella
James Campbell	Margaret Jones	George Sauer
Janet Cattanaach	Kevin Karl	Marie Schultz
Jacqueline Morrow	Dan Karulski	Marianne Schwartz
Christian	Mark Kenney	William Schwartz
Ursula Cichy	Irene Kerps	Zachery Scriff
Loretta Clott	Janet Knight	James Secviar
Joseph Clune	Susan Kolodziej	Jim Seul
Willie Colby	Gregory P. Koscielski	Renee Shehan
Charlotte Conn	Melvin Kostalik	Nick Skinner
Vincent Corsello	Crystal Kurek	Laurie Slazyk
Mike Curtain	Annika LeMonier	Karen Sliwa
Valerie Czapkowicz	Chris LeMonier	Deborah Stareck
Sarah Dalton	Debbie LeMonier	Georgianne Suto
Aaron Dudek	Nicklas LeMonier	Florence Stevens
Betty Ebben	Dorothy Lesnefsky	Carol Storey
Alex Eiland	Kris Lisikiewicz	Charles Svitko
Sherlon Evans	Jo Lisiniewicz	Rose Theis
James Fletcher	Edward Liskiewicz	Michele Thomas
Heriberto Flores	Stanley Liskiewicz	Rosemary Thomas
Maria Flores	Maria Lovell	Russ Thomas
John Forde	Denise Malayter	Gerardo Trevino
Bonnie Gabrione	James Malayter	David Trotman
Rich Gagliani	Brady Martin	Kathie Trudgian
Christine Gajda	Paul Martin	Anthony Ubuaue
Andrea Garritano	Carolyn McGill	Tony Vanden Heuvel
Emily Gibson	Larkin McKenzie	Raymond Vanderbok
Joan Glinski	Jacob Menclewicz	James Wachel
Monica Gonzalez	Jenny Mendoza	Kathy Wachel
Howard Gralewski	Faye Meny	Marilyn (Vrabel) Warda
Margaret Gray	Sandi Merlo	Mark Wein
Susan Graff	Erin Meyer	Ruth Williams
Christine Greenberg	Benjamin Mikels	Annette Wisniewski
Mary Ellen Gullicks	John Mitchener	Stephanie Wisniewski
Katie Kardes Hargett	Andrew Moll	Bill Wisniewski
Rosemarie Havran	Thomas Mordaunt	Dick Wright
Amy Hayes	Genevieve Mrvan	Cecilia Ziegler
Dick Hemingway		Cody Ziemkowski

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

My dad was adopted as a baby. It's a big part of my family's story. His birth mother placed him in a Catholic orphanage not long after birth. A young couple longing for a baby strolled among the bassinets. My father, then only a few months old, looked at the husband and smiled. The man said, "That's my son." They took him home and the family grew. This moment of adoption was a wonderful truth they celebrated even when my dad was a young boy. They told him, "You're even more special than the other children, because we chose you to be our son." My dad's eyes well up with tears of gratitude whenever he tells the story, even eighty-three years later.

What is your story? Do we think or act like unwanted orphans? Who do we believe ourselves to be? As we continue to ponder Jesus' resurrection, we hear him say to us this Sunday, "I will not leave you orphans." God doesn't leave us alone like spiritual orphans. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is the Holy Spirit, who is also called the Spirit of Adoption. He chooses us to be His children, to share God's life forever.

He gives us a future filled with hope.

We are not orphans anymore!

This Easter, that's the story we should share with others. It's the true story we are living right now.

Father John Muir

©LPi

40  
years

You are Invited to the  
**Jubilee Celebration of the Ordination**  
**Rev. Michael J. Yadron**  
May 28, 2023 Noon Mass



Immediately after Mass, a Luncheon will be held at the  
**St. Thomas More Social Center**  
8435 Calumet Avenue - Munster, IN  
Luncheon Ticket Cost is \$20 per person  
Children age 10 and above are welcome to attend

Please share a memory of Fr. Mike or  
send him a message

Space is limited.  
RSVP immediately to reserve your spot by May 22nd



To send your special message and RSVP go to:  
<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/0FBrXFj6>  
or send check and contact information  
to the Parish Office



## TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

**"Nothing says 'new mom' like a baby in a dry-clean only sweater." ~ Jennifer Fujita**

It's Mother's Day! This is the day when we set aside some extra, quality time to sing the praises of our mothers and to treat them for all that they do and all that they are.

But when we celebrate Mother's Day, we generally celebrate the "finished product" so to speak. We think about our tried-and-true moms, about people who have been mothering for a long time, and even about grandmothers. However, they were not always what they are now.

We all have to begin somewhere. We are not always finished products. I remember meeting many a woman preparing to become a mother and many women who were brand new mothers. Especially if it were their first child, there was generally an aura of cluelessness about them.

They didn't know what to expect. They didn't know how they might cope. They didn't know what their new child might do to the relationship with their husbands or family or friends. They didn't know how or how much they might be changed.

When I was working my way through college, I was an orderly at St. Anthony Hospital in Crown Point. I generally floated to a few different units, depending upon who might be in need of extra staff. I found myself often on the surgical floor, in the coronary unit, the Emergency Room, and, believe it or not, labor and delivery as well as the nursery.

I met many a brand new mother. Just teaching some of the basic steps as to how to hold a baby, how to feed a baby, and how to change a baby, were all brand new tasks to some and they found themselves over their heads. Dealing with some mothers who brought their babies in because they were croupy or were not sleeping well was another opportunity to see some people in over their heads.

But that didn't last long. They learned what they needed. They found the wherewithal deep within. They realized that a lot of what they needed was innate and that they would discover it as the need arose.

Motherhood is not always the finished product. Motherhood is about planning, hoping, longing, searching, dreaming, loving, and accepting. As long as the heart of the mother remains open, God will supply all that is needed. Happy Mother's Day to all who are privileged to watch over and raise others!

**FAITH ACTION:** Pray for all mothers today.

*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:

- May 14: Msgr. Julian F. Doktor (1965)
- May 15: Msgr. Clement M. Mlinarovich (1971)
- May 16: Rev. John B. Barasinski (2020)
- May 17: Rev. Eric A. Schaff (1969)
- May 18: Rev. Henry A. Smartz (1967)
- May 19: Msgr. Ignatius L. Urbonas (2012)
- May 20: Rev. Joseph A. Angotti (2018)

## MAY CROWNING

SUNDAY - MAY 21, 2023 - 7:00 PM

**CARMELITE MONASTERY**

**1628 Ridge Road - Munster, IN**



*Experience the Presence of Mary!*

*Exposition of Most Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Benediction, Prayers,  
Outdoor Candlelight Procession*

## ON RETREAT

This week, all the priests of the Diocese of Gary will be on retreat along with our bishop. We will be gone from Sunday afternoon through Thursday. Thank you, Carmelite Fathers, for covering Masses for us here at the parish! I will keep all of you in my prayers.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Your Honor," the defense attorney began, "I want to bring to your attention how unfair it is for my client to be accused of theft. He arrived in New York City a week ago and barely knows his way around. What's more, he only speaks a few words of English."

The Judge looked at the defendant and said, "How much English can you speak?"

The defendant looked up and said, "Give me your wallet!"





## Religious Education

For St. Thomas More Religious Education info, please contact Emily Hackett at (219) 836-8610 or [ehackett@stm-school.com](mailto:ehackett@stm-school.com).

Get Ready for Fun & Adventure at St. Thomas More's

### Vacation Bible School

Pre-K to 5th Grade

**Monday, July 10th - Friday, July 14th**

**8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Join us for all the summer fun at this year's St. Thomas More Vacation Bible School.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

or stop in the Parish Office to pick one up.

#### Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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

As the children participate in fun-filled activities, they will find the ultimate truth in Jesus!

**Please register at the Parish Office by June 19!**

(no guaranteed t-shirt after this date.)

Find a Registration Form in upcoming bulletins

## Holy Name Society

Join other faithful men of our parish as we come together to serve others, share our spirituality and enjoy social time.

**Monday, May 15**

7:00 p.m. at the Weis Center

Please join us at our next meeting for an exciting program:

*Featured Speaker:*

**Sean Martin**

*Topic:*

**Mary Our Queen Mother**

The next Holy Name meeting will be Monday, June 19.

## Gabriel Project

Please join us for our next meeting on

**Wednesday, May 24**

7:00 p.m. • Weis Center • Room 101

The St. Thomas More Gabriel Project continues to provide assistance to moms who need help by providing them with clothes, diapers, formula and other items needed for their babies. Our most sincere thanks to the organizations and parish members who have donated items for the mothers and infants we serve.

We welcome new members to join us.

## Greeters for the Week



**Sunday, May 21**

**6:30 a.m. Mass**

Main: Mary Jo Jez

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

Main: Odegaard Family

Chapel: Mike Cardone

**10:00 a.m. Mass**

Main: Michelle Walker

Chapel: Tim Jevyak

**12:00 Noon Mass**

Main: Pat Batchelder

Chapel: Celeste Peltzer

**Saturday, May 20**

5:30 p.m.

Main: Mack Family

Chapel: Patty Pfister

## Ministry Schedule

**Sunday, May 14**

7:00 p.m.

Pastoral Council Nominee Discernment

**Tuesday, May 16**

7:00 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack #542: Weis Center Main Hall

7:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts #542: Weis Center Main Hall

**Wednesday, May 17**

9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Weis Center -Room 101

12:30 p.m.

Senior of STM: Weis Center Main Hall

3:30 p.m.

Ballet Folklorico: Weis Center Main Hall

**Thursday, May 18**

4:00 p.m.

Ballet Folklorico: Weis Center Main Hall

5:30 p.m.

Daisy Troop: Weis Center Mail Hall

**Friday, May 19**

9:00 a.m.

Gifts of Love & Warmth: Weis —Room 101

**Saturday, May 20**

7:00 a.m.

Planting Possibilities Flower & Plant Sale  
Weis Center North Parking Lot

**Sunday, May 21**

5:30 p.m.

In-B-Teen: Weis Center Main Hall

7:00 p.m.

Pastoral Council Nominee Discernment

## Help Keep

### Our Parish Grounds Beautiful!

Individuals, families and groups are welcome to join the St. Thomas More

### Gardening Ministry.

Volunteer/work based on your schedule!

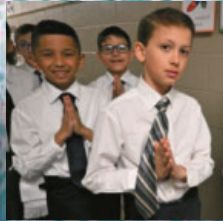
For additional information on the various areas/tasks to be completed, and for the next steps please contact Noreen Bickel at [nbickel@stm-church.com](mailto:nbickel@stm-church.com) or watch the bulletin for a link to sign up in next week's bulletin.







# First Holy Communion



Congratulations to the Third Grade Students of St. Thomas More School, and our parish Religious Education Program, who received the Sacrament of *First Holy Communion* on Saturday, May 6, 2023. God bless each of these beautiful children as they continue on their faith Journey.

For the complete album of photos, please refer to our Facebook page: St. Thomas More Catholic Church & School/ Munster, IN.







# Apply Now

Limited Spots Remain in Each Grade:  
**Kindergarten & Grades 1 • 2 • 3**  
 Apply Now: <https://tinyurl.com/mr3u3698>  
**A-Rated**  
**St. Thomas More School**

## Mental Health Ministry

### *Food for Thought...*

*"What mental health needs is more  
 sunlight, more candor, and more unashamed conversation."*  
 Glenn Close

#### **Who are we?**

We are a **new** ministry looking to create mental health programs and provide outreach to those in our parish who may be emotionally struggling.

Our ministry started in November of 2022.

Currently, we meet once a month, at 7:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Weis Center.

Our ministry is open to all parishioners, no mental health training is required.

#### **What's up and coming in the Mental Health Ministry?**

We will be starting an Emotions Anonymous group in Fall 2023, led by a member of the Mental Health Ministry.

This group is composed of people who come together in weekly meetings for the purpose of working toward recovery from emotional difficulties.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to become well emotionally.

We are planning educational and supportive groups covering areas of depression, anxiety, and trauma.

We are reaching out to mental health professionals to come to St. Thomas More and provide mental health education.

These groups and events will be open to all in the parish and will be led by Mental Health Ministry members.



Lastly, we are working on engaging with other St. Thomas More ministries to provide mental health support and education to its members to support them as they also minister to those in our parish. Such as, Eucharistic Ministers and Religious Education.

#### **Next Mental Health Ministry Meeting:**

7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 23**

Weis Center • Room 101

## St. Vincent de Paul Society



Thank you for your continued generosity towards our neighbors in need, as we work to help with groceries & utility assistance. The need is always great and we appreciate our parishioners who partner with us in our mission to assist others.

### **Our Pantry Currently Needs:**

Cereal	Hamburger Helper	Spaghetti/Pasta
Pancake Mix	Instant Potatoes	Pasta Sauce
Syrup	Mac & Cheese	Rice
Cake Mix	Pork & Beans	Shampoo
Frosting	Canned Fruit	Toothpaste &
Peanut Butter	Canned Vegetables:	Toothbrushes
Jelly	Peas	Dish Soap
Snacks	Green Beans	Toilet Paper

### **No Soup Needed at This Time!**

We have an abundance of soup thanks to the St. Thomas More School "Souper Bowl Monday" event.



## **Hello, Are You There? Can You Hear Us?**

### **It's In-B-Tween Calling You**

*We're calling all teenagers, 13 to 18  
 to join us in the fun.*

Our meetings have included jeopardy games, an Easter Egg Hunt filled with great prizes and some karaoke singing with everyone taking turns choosing their song to sing individually or in a group.

If you missed those activities, it's ok.

We're planning more fun evenings, such as charades and a treasure hunt.

IN-B-TEEN meets on Sundays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Each Month • Weis Center

So hope to see you

**Sunday, May 21**

Come alone or bring a friend.

No pressure or judgement, just a lot of laughs and a good time.

## **Wedding Anniversary Mass**

A Strong Marriage is Something to Be Celebrated!

All Couples Celebrating a Milestone Anniversary are Invited  
 5 Years • 10 Years • 15 Years • 20 Years • 25 Years & So On

### **Diocesan Wedding Mass**

**Sunday, June 4 at 11:00 a.m.**

Holy Angels Cathedral • Gary, IN

Celebrated by Bishop Robert J. McClory

Family members are welcome. A light Reception will follow.

Registration required: [www.dcgary.org](http://www.dcgary.org)



## Seniors of STM



Congratulations to the newly elected Seniors of STM Board Members, who were sworn in at the recent Spring Luncheon.

### Congratulations to the 2023-2024 Seniors Board:

Judy Hamer: President

Sue Oczkowski: Vice President

Marilyn Pajor: Membership

Mary Ann Zubak: Secretary

Dave Zawada: Host

Dennis McNeil: Treasurer

Bob O'Donnell: Past President

### Are You 55 or Older?

Join our fun group of active Seniors.

You *do not* need to be a St. Thomas More parishioner to join...anyone 55+ is welcome!

#### All Meetings:

1:00 p.m. • Weis Center

*Unless otherwise noted.*



**Free-will monetary donations to SVDP are accepted at each meeting.**

**Your generosity to help those in need is appreciated.**

**Wednesday, May 17**

### *Bingo Bonanza*

If you like Bingo & are 55+, come join the Seniors for their annual Bingo begin at 1:00 p.m.

Come and bring a friend!

**Wednesday, June 21**

### *Social Meeting*

To Be Announced

**Wednesday, July 19**

### *Senior Picnic & Luncheon*

## STM Music & Food Fest

*Join the Fun, the Food, the Music!*

The STMS Music & Food Fest Committee is busy planning another great event for our parish and our community and we need your help to make it all happen.

### *Festival Dates:*

**Thursday, June 22 to Sunday, June 25**



### We Need You!

Can you spare just 2-3 hours of time to help make our parish festival a fun-filled experience for all families?



Use QR code or

[www.VolunteerAtSTM.com](http://www.VolunteerAtSTM.com).

For festival information, including our lineup of bands, visit:

[www.STMMusicandFoodFest.com](http://www.STMMusicandFoodFest.com)



### Sponsor/Donation Info

To make a donation, sponsor a band or become an overall festival sponsor, please contact

Patricia Salinas, Co-General Chair for the St. Thomas More Food and Music Festival, at

(773) 318-2013 or [psalinas711@icloud.com](mailto:psalinas711@icloud.com).

Thank you in advance for your help and support!

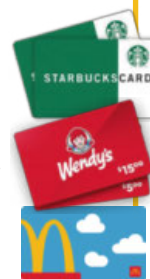
### Kids Games & Big Kid Game Area

#### *Prizes Needed*

We are in need of prizes for the summer festival kid's games. This year we are adding a big kids game area and are looking for donations of gift cards (McDonald's, Starbucks, Wendy's) and other prizes that kids can exchange for winning tickets.

Donations are appreciated and can be dropped off at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your help to make the Festival fun for kids of all ages.



# Golf Classic

**Monday, July 31**

Innsbrook Country Club  
Merrillville, IN



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St. Thomas More School  
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Link to register and more information coming soon.

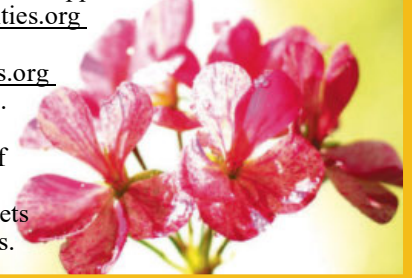
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*Spring Plant Sale*  
**Saturday, May 20**  
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## Right to Life

*National Teens for Life Convention*

June 23-24 in Pittsburgh, PA

Workshops & breakout discussion groups for teens from across  
the country will focus on the latest in the pro-life movement.  
to encourage students to get involved and teach them pro-life  
responses to pro-death arguments, and much more.

Questions? Email [stateod@nrlc.org](mailto:stateod@nrlc.org)

Runs concurrent with the National Pro-Life Convention.

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