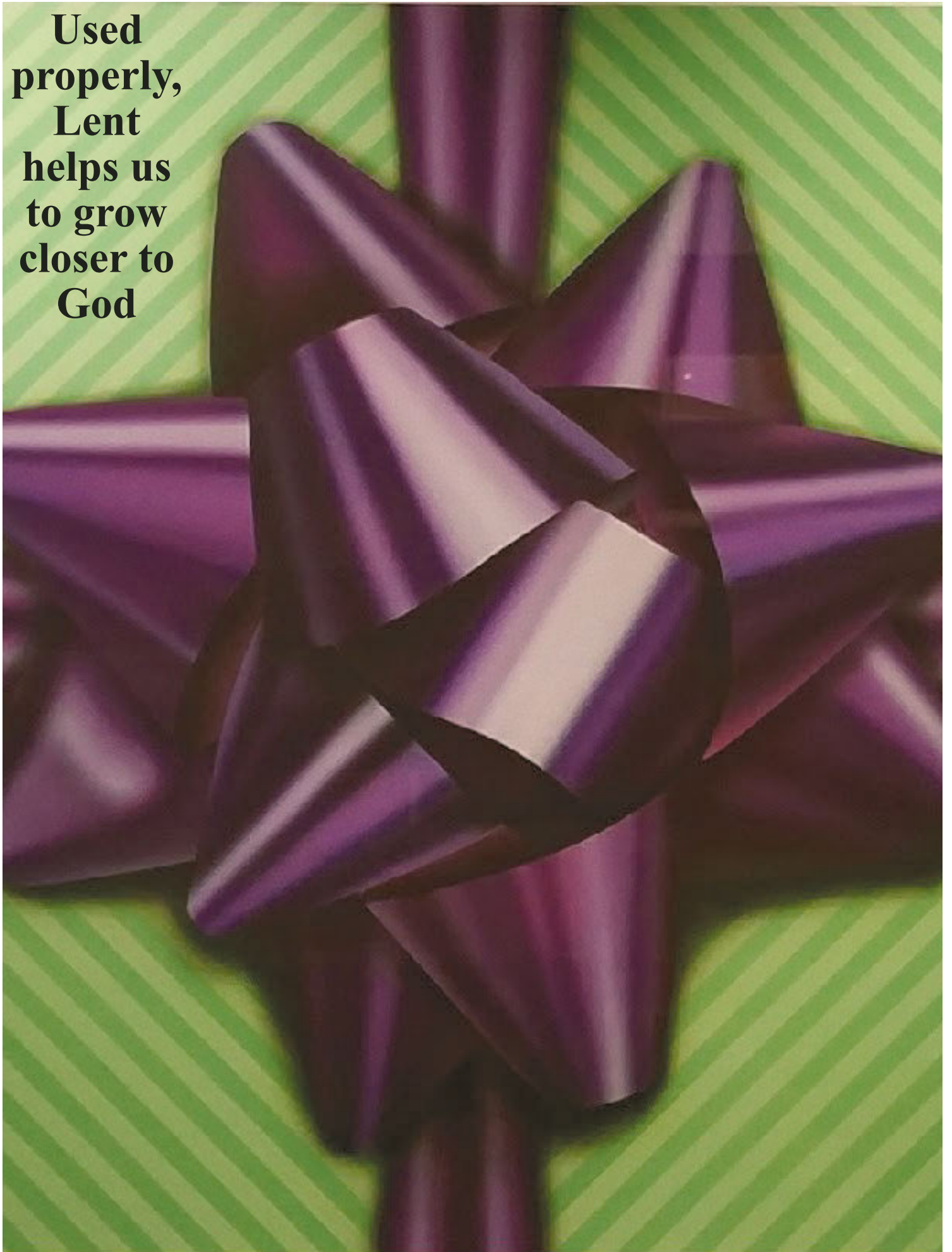


**Used  
properly,  
Lent  
helps us  
to grow  
closer to  
God**



**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 Parish Mission ..... Noreen Bickel; Ext. 2330  
Director of Finance & Operations ..... Charles Schimpf; Ext. 2329  
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](mailto:parish.office@stm-church.com)  
**Email address for bulletin:** ..... [bulletin@stm-church.com](mailto:bulletin@stm-church.com)  
Office Phone ..... 836-8610 Office eFax ..... (219) 533-4280  
Bulletin Editor ..... Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309  
Receptionist ..... Phyllis Krizmanic; 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 Guidance ..... PJ & Margaret Caraher (219) 680-6775

### **2023-2024 Pastoral Council Members**

Julius Ballanco ..... Leslie Dernule  
Debra Harker, Co-Chairperson ..... Katie Kordeck, Chairperson  
Paul Liszewski ..... Bill McCullough  
Jean Nanos ..... Joe Peters  
Michael Popovich ..... Patty Queroz  
Michael Sajn ..... 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 ..... (219) 836-9151  
Principal ..... Dr. Samantha Francis; Ext. 2258  
School Administrative Assistant ..... Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 2200  
School Reception/Office Associate ..... Nereida Harretos; Ext. 2201  
School Admissions ..... Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309  
Director of Development ..... Annette Czarobski; Ext. 2307  
Business Manager ..... Maria Vega; Ext. 2339

### **Parish Ministry Center 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 ..... Tim Jevyak  
Parish Life ..... Katie Kordeck, Tamara Kozy  
Peace & Social Justice ..... Noreen Bickel, 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/Donna Weidenfeller  
..... [STMCareerGroup@gmail.com](mailto:STMCareerGroup@gmail.com)  
Circle of Prayer ..... Carolyn Cenko 741-2509  
..... [carolynrealtor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolynrealtor@sbcglobal.net)  
Cub Scouts ..... Patricia Sinclair • [plalessandrini@yahoo.com](mailto:plalessandrini@yahoo.com)  
Finance ..... Barbara Shaver 838-9200  
Gabriel Project ..... Marilyn Glennon (219) 836-8610  
Gifts of Love & Warmth ..... Bernadine Nemeth 513-6544  
Girl Scouts ..... Cynthia Navarrete (773) 726-2411  
Holy Name Society ..... Bill Burke: [sbburke3@att.net](mailto:sbburke3@att.net)  
Knights of Columbus ..... Ralph Konkoly (219) 588-4559  
Live Streaming ..... Joann Hajduch (219) 836-8610, Ext. 2245  
Mental Health Ministry ..... Dr. Jean Nanos [drjnanos@stm-church.com](mailto:drjnanos@stm-church.com)  
Parish Garden Ministry ..... Noreen Bickel (219) 836-8610  
Respect Life ..... Leslie Dernule (219) 741-3739  
Seniors of STM ..... Judy Hamer (219) 836-7916  
Ushers Club ..... Jim Marmalejo 718-8704

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



## Celebrants

**Saturday, March 16**

5:30 p.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

**Sunday, March 17**

6:30 a.m. Carmelite Father

8:00 a.m. Carmelite Father

10:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron

12:00 Noon Fr. Mike Yadron

## Servers

**Saturday, March 16**

5:30 p.m. P. Werner, J. Dye/MC ~ Hunter

**Sunday, March 17**

8:00 a.m. K. Karl, G. Knight/MC ~ Abi

10:00 a.m. T. Oguyoye, R. Smola/MC ~ Nick

12:00 p.m. B. & D. Reynolds/MC ~ Francesca

## Rest in Peace

*Richard A. Bernat*



## Stations of the Cross

Everyone is invited  
to join us for

*Stations of the Cross*  
**Fridays During Lent**  
**7:00 p.m.**

St. Thomas More Church.  
All are welcome!

## Parish Office Hours

**Monday to Friday:**

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Saturday:**

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon



## Sacrificial Offerings

**March 3, 2024**



Adult	\$ 17,406.00
Loose	\$ 2,809.00
Children	\$ 108.00
Automated	\$ 7,859.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 28,182.00</b>

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

# MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, March 10 — Fourth Sunday of Lent**

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased

8:00 am Phyllis Garber (Ann) by Joe and Cynthia Sindall

10:00 am Charlotte Madajczyk (Ann) by Family

12:00 pm Dimitri Adich by John Guiden

**MONDAY, March 11**

6:30 am Corinne Dagnillo (Ann) by Donna Weidenfeller

8:30 am Angela Speziale by Joseph Speziale

**TUESDAY, March 12**

6:30 am Barbara Jean Hatfield by Altar & Rosary

8:30 am Dr. Jose F. Serrano, Sr. (Ann) by Serrano Family

**WEDNESDAY, March 13**

6:30 am Michael Stodola by Rose Yothment

8:30 am Elaine Burns (Ann) by Family

**THURSDAY, March 14**

6:30 am Josephine C. Michalik by Family

8:30 am Karen Kalwasinski (Ann) by Family

**FRIDAY, March 15**

6:30 am Stephen Rousseau (Ann) by Wife Susan

8:30 am The Living & Deceased Members of Zembala  
Family by Mary Jo Jez

**SATURDAY, March 16**

8:30 am Donna Henkels by Beatrice Henkels-Pluard

5:30 pm Kathleen Anthony by Pagorek Family

**SUNDAY, March 17 — Fifth Sunday of Lent**

6:30 am For Our Parish Family Living and Deceased

8:00 am Rose Gacsko by Bob Klosek

10:00 am Michael G. Stodola by Alonzo Family

12:00 pm John L. Ostrowski by Francine Maccaroni

## Stewardship REFLECTION

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son ..."*  
JOHN 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

## Automated Contributions



Make your life easier by contributing to the good works of our St. Thomas More Parish using our online system.

### Make a Payment Online:

Donate online through our parish website by using PayPal/debit/credit card:

<http://www.stm-church.com/>.

Go to "Donate" button in "Virtual Offering".

**Set-Up Automated Payment:** Instruction/forms on parish website: <http://www.stm-cJoin.hurch.com/>

### Questions?

Contact Maria Vega, Business Manager at: (219) 836-8610, #2339 or [mvega@stm-church.com](mailto:mvega@stm-church.com)

## Readings Week of March 10

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21  
*Scrutiny:* 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33  
*Scrutiny:* Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



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

Joshua Alvarez  
 Chiara Andrzejewski  
 Doris Aurelio  
 Maria Aurelio  
 Marielva Banks  
 Pat Batchelder  
 Antonio Belmonte  
 Mary Berry  
 Michael Berry  
 Michael Billedo  
 Allen Blocher  
 Diane Bochnowski  
 Cheryl Bostrom  
 Marilyn Branco  
 Linda Braun  
 Bill Briney  
 Grace Briney  
 Stephany Burney  
 Kathleen Burns  
 Diane Butler  
 Dorothy Campbell  
 James Campbell  
 Janet Cattanaach  
 Jacqueline Morrow  
 Christian  
 Ursula Cichy  
 Charlie Clam  
 Loretta Clott  
 Joseph Clune  
 Willie Colby  
 Charlotte Conn  
 Vincent Corsello  
 Mike Curtain  
 Valerie Czupkowicz  
 Sarah Dalton  
 Aaron Dudek  
 Alex Eiland  
 Sherlon Evans  
 James Fletcher  
 Heriberto Flores  
 Maria Flores  
 John Forde  
 Bonnie Gabrione  
 Rich Gagliani  
 Christine Gajda  
 Andrea Garritano  
 Emily Gibson  
 Joan Glinski  
 Monica Gonzalez  
 Howard Gralewski  
 Margaret Gray  
 Susan Graff  
 Christine Greenberg  
 Mary Ellen Gullicks  
 Katie Kardes Hargett  
 Amy Hayes  
 Dick Hemingway

Marie Henke  
 Elaine Herrmann  
 Adelina Hernandez  
 Bertha Birdy Hernandez  
 Irma Hernandez  
 Marisol Hernandez  
 Robert Heseck  
 Becky Hill  
 Marie Hill  
 Joan Hoess  
 Sally Joy Hollingshead  
 Charlotte Hunt  
 Betty Ingbertson  
 Joseph S. Iwan  
 Steve Izzo  
 Elizabeth Jacob  
 Barbara Jamrose  
 Stanley Jayjack  
 Kelly Jean  
 Margaret Jones  
 Kevin Karl  
 Dan Karulski  
 Mark Kenney  
 Irene Kerps  
 Janet Knight  
 Susan Kolodziej  
 Gregory P. Koscielski  
 Melvin Kostalik  
 Crystal Kurek  
 Annika LeMonier  
 Chris LeMonier  
 Debbie LeMonier  
 Nicklas LeMonier  
 Dorothy Lesnefsky  
 Kris Lisikiewicz  
 Jo Lisiniewicz  
 Edward Liskiewicz  
 Stanley Liskiewicz  
 Maria Lovell  
 James Malayter  
 Brady Martin  
 Paul Martin  
 Carolyn McGill  
 Larkin McKenzie  
 Jacob Mencliewicz  
 Jenny Mendoza  
 Faye Meny  
 Michael Mercier  
 Sandi Merlo  
 Erin Meyer  
 Gino Michels  
 Benjamin Mikels  
 Madeline Mikolanis  
 Robert Minnick  
 John Mitchener  
 Andrew Moll  
 Thomas Mordaunt  
 Genevieve Mrvan

Bernadine Nemeth  
 Donna Nichols  
 Maria Novak  
 Steven Nowaczyk  
 Clare O'Brien  
 Donna O'Connor  
 Danny Ogren  
 James Pancheri  
 Marty Pavlovic  
 Lucille Perz  
 Judith Peterson  
 Dawn Petro  
 Johanna Petrich  
 Andrew Pieczyrak  
 Elizabeth Pilones  
 Sylvester Porras  
 Dennis Powell  
 Ronald Prus  
 Jackie Roach  
 Christina Rzonca  
 Ann Sardella  
 George Sauer  
 Marie Schultz  
 Marianne Schwartz  
 William Schwartz  
 Zachery Scriff  
 James Secviar  
 Jim Seul  
 Renee Shehan  
 Nick Skinner  
 Laurie Slazyk  
 Karen Sliwa  
 Deborah Stareck  
 Georgianne Suto  
 Florence Stevens  
 Carol Storey  
 Charles Svitko  
 Rose Theis  
 Michele Thomas  
 Rosemary Thomas  
 Russ Thomas  
 Gerardo Trevino  
 David Trotman  
 Kathie Trudgian  
 Anthony Ubane  
 Tony Vanden Heuvel  
 Raymond Vanderbok  
 James Wachel  
 Kathy Wachel  
 Marilyn (Vrabel) Warda  
 Mark Wein  
 Ruth Williams  
 Stephanie Wisniewski  
 Bill Wisniewski  
 Dick Wright  
 Cecilia Ziegler  
 Cody Ziemkowski

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if they are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good. What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn.

*Father John Muir* ©LPi

## Nursery

The Nursery is available to young children, ages infant to 4, during the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Bride's Room.

### Sunday, March 17

Jennifer & Oliver Anderson • Rachel Perezchica

### Sunday, March 24 — Palm Sunday

Rachel Perezchica • Kaaren Mashura

### March 31 — Easter Sunday — Closed

## Bulletin Deadlines

All bulletin articles must be submitted at least two full weeks in advance to: [bulletin@stm-church.com](mailto:bulletin@stm-church.com). Thank you for your help.



## SPRING AHEAD

"One of the ways the telegraph changed us as humans was it gave us a new sense of what time it is. It gave us an understanding of simultaneity. It gave us the ability to synchronize clocks from one place to another. It made it possible for the world to have standard time and time zones and then Daylight Savings Time and then after that jetlag. All of that is due to the telegraph because, before that, the time was whatever it was wherever you were." ~ James Gleick

There is a great deal about our lives that we attempt to control. We are masters at the art of manipulation. We learn all of that from a very early age. The baby learns that a well-placed cry or scream will get a certain response and it uses those cries and screams to the best advantage possible. We practice what we have learned throughout our lives, all for the sake of managing our lives and the environment in which we live.

Today is definitely one of the products of that attempt: Daylight Savings Time. A long time ago, it was begun to save energy and make better use of daylight. Better hours were spent in the fields for farming. Less energy was used to light a home. The examples are numerous. In today's world, it does not seem to be as needed and, indeed, many people are trying to do away with it.

If you think about it, we are in a similar situation in the Church, are we not? We are, if you will, in Lenten Savings Time. Lent is a season of grace and holiness. It is a season given to us to make us better, wiser, and smarter in the things that we do in our faith. Used properly, Lent helps us to grow closer to God so that, when we shift gears at Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is filled with that much more glory and joy.

We can grumble about Daylight Savings Time — believe me, I sure do. I have the early Masses this weekend, which means that the hour of sleep that I lost made the 6:30 a.m. Mass feel like 5:30 a.m. — but, after a while, we become accommodated to the change in time and move along as if nothing has happened. Then, when fall arrives and Daylight Savings Time ends, we luxuriate in that extra hour of sleep, our reward.

We do all that we can this season of Lent to draw closer to God. At first, it may knock us off base. We might feel a bit out of sorts. But then, we get into the swing of things and luxuriate in the celebration of Easter. Imagine what we will feel like when we get to luxuriate in the celebration of eternity with God!

**FAITH ACTION:** "Spring ahead" with joyful anticipation of what waits for us at the finish.

*Fr. Mike*

## Lenten Regulations

All the Fridays of Lent are Days of Abstinence. This is a reminder of what the guidelines of abstinence are in the Church.

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

### MARCH EVENTS FOR LENT/EASTER

**March 19** - Lenten Confessions at 7:00 p.m.

There will be several priests available to hear confessions from 7:00 p.m. until finished.

**March 27**

7:00 p.m. Taize Prayer and last opportunity for confession before Easter. (Please note that there will be only one priest hearing confessions this evening so please go to confession on March 19.)

**March 28 - Holy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m.

**March 29 - Good Friday**

1:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Prayer Service

**March 30 - Holy Saturday**

**There are no confessions heard on Holy Saturday**

2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Easter Baskets

8:00 p.m. Vigil Mass of Easter

**March 31 - Easter Sunday**

Masses on Easter Sunday are at 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

**Did you ever stop and wonder...**

- Why people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?
- Why toasters have a setting so high that could burn the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?
- Why there is a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?
- Why the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?



## 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:

March 14: Rev. Thaddeus S. Plawewski (1967)

Rev. Henry I. Krynski (1987)

March 16: Rev. Matthew G. Spebar (1979)



# Religious Education

## Religious Education Classes

For info regarding St. Thomas More Religious Education/Formation contact Emily Hackett: [ehackett@stm-church.com](mailto:ehackett@stm-church.com).

### March Schedule

- 13/14 Class  
20/21 Class  
27/28 No Class — Holy Week

### April Schedule

- 3/4 Class  
10/11 Class  
17/18 Class  
24/25 Last Class for All Except First Communicants  
27 Sacrament of Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.  
8th Grade Students of Our Parish

### May Schedule

- 1/2 First Communicant Practice  
All Wednesday & Thursday Students  
All must attend both nights  
4 First Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

## Greeters for the Week



### Sunday, March 17

6:30 a.m. Mass

Main: Mary Jo Jez

8:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Paul & Jan Liszewski

Chapel: Joe & Kathy Tolnai

10:00 a.m. Mass

Main: Sergio & Lisa Mendoza

Chapel: Tim & Amy Jevyak

12:00 Noon Mass

Main: Pat Batchelder

Chapel: Celeste Peltzer

### Saturday, March 16

5:30 p.m. Mass

Main: Mack Family

Chapel: Patty Pfister

## Parish/Ministry Schedule

St. Vincent de Paul Food Collection

After All Weekend Masses

### Sunday, March 10

11:00 am Troop 542 Boy Scouts Eagle Court of Honor  
Weis Center Main Hall

### Monday, March 11

7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous — Weis Center Room 101

7:00 pm Peace & Social Justice — Weis Center Room 107

### Tuesday, March 12

4:00 pm Girl Scouts Troop 15742 Grade 6 — Weis Rm 104

5:00 pm Troop 15574 — Weis Center Main Hall

7:00 pm Boy Scouts #542 — Weis Center Main Hall

7:00 pm St. Dymphna Discussion Group — Weis Room 101

### Wednesday, March 13

9:30 am Morning Bible Study — Weis Center Room 101

4:30 pm Altar & Rosary Chili Bingo — Weis Main Hall

### Friday, March 15

9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth — Weis Center Room 101

### Saturday, March 16

9:00 am Communion Retreat — Enter Weis Center

## Altar & Rosary Society

Chili Bingo

Wednesday, March 13

6:00 p.m. at the Weis Center.

Doors Open at 5:00 pm for volunteers to help set up Bingo.

We will begin with the Rosary at 6:15 pm.

Altar & Rosary will provide chili, hot dogs, chips & beverages. Women attending are asked to bring:

Desserts • New Door Prize (valued \$10)

Reservations were due to the Parish Office by March 9th: (219) 836-8610.

Info: Kathleen Pagorek at (219) 972-0539.



## Little Black Lenten Book

Can you spare just 6 minutes a day?

*"Prayer is the best weapon we possess, the key that opens the heart of God."*

Saint Padre Pio

Have you spent some quiet time with the Lord?



## Easter Pierogi Sale

The STM Knights of Columbus are selling Pierogi for Easter, provided by Alexandra's. Cost: \$6/Dozen  
Use the QR Code to Order Online by March 18.



Pick-up:  
Sunday,  
March 24

11:00 a.m. to  
1:00 p.m.

Weis Center

Payment in  
Cash or Check  
is due at pick-up.

For questions, or more information, please email:







## Catholic Schools Week 2024

At St. Thomas More School we are incredibly blessed with a building filled with exceptional educators. Each day they bring their love of God into their classrooms, working to inspire young minds and ignite a fire that will lead students to find success. This year, we are honored to acknowledge one of these outstanding teachers, Ms. Michaelene Hawley, as our 2024 Teacher of the Year.

### 2024 Teacher of the Year *Michaelene Hawley*



Loved by her students, parents and co-worker alike, Ms. Hawley exemplifies all that we treasure in a Catholic school teacher. A product of Catholic education herself, Michaelene values the strong impact of faith and academics entwined together to help students find a steady path to learn, grow and succeed. Add in a dash of humor and high expectations for her students, and you have a classroom of happy, confident students working to do their very best and excited to be in her math and science classes.

With collegiate studies at Purdue University Northwest, Michaelene holds a Bachelors of Art in Elementary Education and Special Education and now celebrates her sixth year at St. Thomas More School.

In addition to running a fun and enlightening classroom, her STMS tenure also includes a myriad of other activities to benefit our school. She continues to be the school's Yearbook Editor, serves as the Homework Haven Supervisor, is the 3rd/4th Grade Team Lead, coaches Girls Basketball, and is currently a host teacher for a Purdue Northwest student teacher, who will undoubtedly benefit from her excellent tutelage.

When not at school, Michaelene enjoys reading, painting, DIY projects, attending concerts and spending quality time with family and friends. But perhaps her favorite time is spent with her adorable dog, Mumford. If you know Michaelene, then you most certainly know Mumford!

### Thoughts About Her Ministry at St. Thomas More School:

"St. Thomas More School has never felt like a job. The sense of community that radiates from this school truly gives me a whole new meaning to what teaching is. The support felt from colleagues, school families, and even students is unparalleled. Having a community to help support me to be the best person I can be has translated to all parts of my life and I am extremely fortunate and appreciative to have found that here at STMS."

### Thoughts on the Importance of Catholic Education:

"Catholic education helps mold the "whole child" to be successful in all aspects of life. Catholic education is important because it gives students the tools to go into the world with not only a strong foundation in academics, but also strong foundations in morals, values, and faith. These building blocks allow students to have the ability to care for others, be successful, and contribute to their community, all while knowing that they have the ability to turn to Jesus Christ whenever they may need him."

And that is truly a gift from which any child can benefit.

We are extremely blessed to call Ms. Hawley one of our very own and look forward to many more years of her humor, talents, inspiration and faithfulness to guide us all. Thank you Michaelene for choosing to teach at St. Thomas More School...you are truly a gift to your students and our school.



### Dining for Dollars

Everyone is invited to our next Dining for Dollars.

*BBQ for the Soul...*

### Doc's Smokehouse

1420 Calumet Avenue • Dyer, IN

**Thursday, March 14**

11:30 a.m. to Close

Present this coupon to your server and St. Thomas More School will earn 20% of your order.

**This is a Dine-in Only Event.**



## Seniors of STM



### 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.*

New members are always welcome.  
Bring a friend to any of our meetings.

**Wednesday, March 20**

**Pot Luck Luncheon**

12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

**Please bring a dish to share!**

Bring a dish according to your last name.

A to L — Dessert

M to Z — Side Dish or Salad

*Main dishes are also welcome.*

## Catholic Charities Easter Baskets

*Bring Joy to Both Children & Adults*

*This Easter*

Thank you to everyone who picked up a bag last weekend after Mass.

**Please return your filled bag**

to the Parish Office or Narthex on

**March 9/10 or 16/17.**

There will be a  
**Special Second Collection**

the weekend of

**March 16/17**

to help pay for

**Food Baskets**

Catholic Charities

will be distributing.

Thanks in advance  
for your generosity!



## St. Vincent de Paul Society

### Our SVDP Pantry Needs:

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



## Mental Health Ministry

*Food for Thought....*

*"Happiness can be found even  
in the darkest of times, if one only remembers  
to turn on the light."*

Albus Dumbledore

The Mental Health Ministry meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting is scheduled for

**Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.**

Weis Center • Room 101

## St. Dymphna Discussion Group

*Offered by the STM Mental Health Ministry*

As we prepare our souls during the Lenten Season, let us prepare our minds. What better way than to come to the St. Dymphna Discussion Group, an evening of talking about topics related to everyone's mental and emotional health?

Whether it is you or someone you know, come listen to the discussions. Come join us for an evening of sharing and learning about mental health!

The evening discussions will be held on

**Tuesday Evenings**

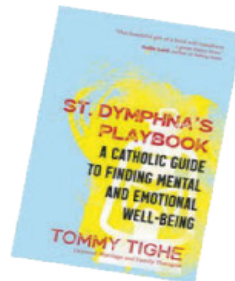
**7:00 to 9:00 p.m. • Weis Center**

March 12 Fatigue

March 19 Lack of Pleasure

Contact the Parish Office with questions

or to reach the STM Mental Health Ministry.



## Holy Name Society

Everyone is invited to join us for our next meeting featuring

*Guest Speaker:*

**Fr. Declan McNicholas**

Discussing

"Missionary Discipleship in Parishes"

**Monday, March 18**

7:00 p.m. at the Weis Center

Please plan to attend this inspirational and meaningful meeting.

**Holy Name Fish Fry  
originally scheduled for  
Friday, March 15  
has been canceled.**

## Emotions Anonymous

Emotions Anonymous is a 12-Step program, based off the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Anyone experiencing emotional difficulties who is willing to try this recovery program is welcome to attend our meetings.

**Every Monday • 7:00 p.m. • Weis Center**

For more information: [www.emotionsanonymous.org](http://www.emotionsanonymous.org)





# NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

## Our National Response to a Timely Call

This is a three-year initiative, launched in 2022 on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, of Corpus Christi.

Renewal began at the diocesan level, inviting diocesan staff, bishops, and priests to what Pope Francis has described as “a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ”—particularly the transforming power and mercy of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

After this fruitful year of preparation, the Year of Parish Revival began on June 11, 2023—also on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. The year has been marked by historic initiatives, such as the first-ever *National Eucharistic Pilgrimage*.

Grassroots creativity is springing up all over the country as love and devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist blossoms in the pews!

### A Catholic Experience Unlike Any Other

For the first time in 83 years, a

#### Eucharistic Congress

will take place in Indianapolis at Lucas Oil Stadium

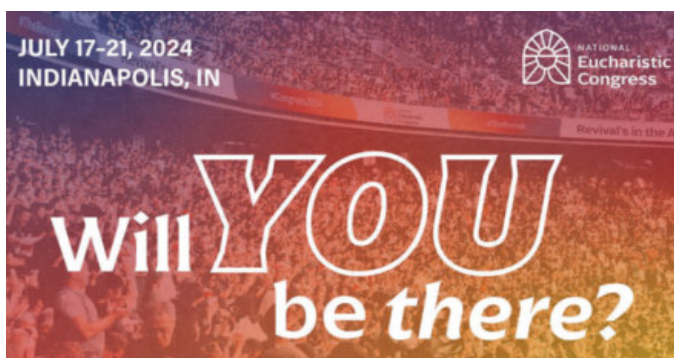
**July 17-21, 2024**

Through the Diocese of Gary, the parish has purchased 20 tickets for the first people who express interest in attending. Tickets are \$200/each (this is less than \$299-\$375, if you purchased online).

#### Purchasing a ticket allows participants entrance to:

- All main programming, including general session
  - Catechetical sessions and breakouts
- A seat at main evening concerts and entertainment
- Access to conference resources such as the National Eucharistic Congress app

For more information about the Eucharistic Congress in July 2024, go to <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org>. Contact the Parish Office if you'd like to purchase one of our parish tickets. The Diocese is also putting together a Diocesan Day on July 20. Go to: <https://dcgary.org/2024Congress> to register or for info.



## Apples for Students

The Apples for the Students program at our school will conclude soon.

**Last Day to Submit**

**Strack & Van Til Receipts:**

Sunday, March 31



## Gabriel Project

Please join us for our next meeting

**Wednesday, March 27**

7:00 p.m. • Weis Center • Room 101

The STM Gabriel Project continues to provide assistance to moms who need help by providing them with clothes, diapers, formula and other items for their babies.

Our sincere thanks to all who have donated items for the mothers and infants we serve.

Also a big thank you to all parishioners who are participating in our Baby Banks project!

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We welcome new members to join our ministry.



## New Teen Ministry Calling For Volunteers

We're thrilled to announce the launch of a dynamic new Youth Ministry at St. Thomas More and are calling on passionate individuals to join us in inspiring and nurturing the Catholic faith of our high school teens so that they do not drift away from their faith, helping them navigate their questions.

**Who We're Looking For:** A dedicated group leaders, age 18 to 40, who are practicing Catholics eager to share their faith. Your role will involve leading, encouraging & supervising teens in small groups, providing them with information & tools for living their faith.

**Get Involved:** If you are passionate about guiding young minds on their faith journey, we invite you to join us! Please leave your contact info at the Parish Office or email

Bernie Barrett at [bb44@ameritech.net](mailto:bb44@ameritech.net).

Planning & organizing sessions will be held in April & May.

**Speaker:**  
**Father Ed Shea OFM**

**"Open Our Eyes Lord"**  
*Reflections on the Journey of Lent 2024*

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**  
1:30 pm Gathering  
2:00 pm Talk

**Holy Angels Cathedral**  
640 Tyler St.  
Gary, IN. 46402

## NWI Catholic Newspaper

Have you seen the NWI Catholic newspaper lately?



The award-winning newspaper offers readers a Catholic perspective on current events, along with national and international news, and inspiring feature stories.

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Thank you for supporting diocesan communications!

## Council of Catholic Women

Indiana(polis) Spring Retreat – April 13, 2024

### Spring Retreat on

April 13, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

St. Mary Cathedral • 1207 Columbia Street • Lafayette

All Indiana women are invited.

Retreat Focus: The Eucharist; Guided Adoration

Inspirational Speakers • Guided Spiritual Painting

Retreat Cost: \$20. Please RSVP to ICCW, Tammy Metzinger, 1236 N 800 W. Delphi, IN 46923 or (765) 427-4441 by 4/7/24.

## Wounded Healers

Dealing with the loss of a loved one?

Join Wounded Healers to help you work through your grief.

All sessions meet on

Wednesdays at St. James the Less

Highland, 9640 Kennedy Ave (corner of Kennedy & 45th)

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Separate Beginning Groups for those dealing with the loss of a

Spouse or Significant Other, Parent, Sibling or

Friend or Child or Grandchild.

Advanced Groups: "Coming Back" &

"Parents Moving Forward". Meeting dates:

**March 20**

**April 3 (Speaker) • April 17 • May 1**

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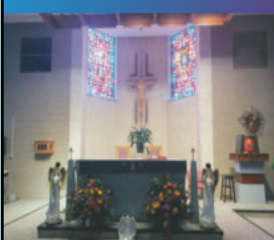
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