Our future is not decided. It greatly depends upon what we decide to do in the present moment.
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. Yadrorn, KCHS; Ext. 2312
myadron@stm-church.com
Associate Pastor: Reverend Declan McNicholas; Ext. 2314
dmNicholas@stm-church.com
Senior Deacon: Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS
Senior Deacon: Daniel Zurawski, KHS
Deacons: Joseph Stodola, KHS
Director of Finance: Noreen Blickel; Ext. 2330
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Deacon David Kapala, KHS; Ext. 2315
Director of Music: Angie Lorandos; Ext. 2338
Director of Religious Education: Emily Hackett; Ext. 2323

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

Parish Office Staff
Hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Office Address: 8636 Calumet Ave, Munster, IN 46321
Email address for bulletin: bulletin@stm-church.com
Office Fax: 836-8610
Bulletin Editor: Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309
Daytime Receptionist: Betty Ann Messner; Ext. 2300
Evening Receptionist: Kristine Dismukes; Ext. 2300
Building Maintenance: Mike Popovich 836-8610, Ext. 2313
Custodial Supervisor: Karla Baldwin 836-8610, Ext. 2331

2019-2020 Pastoral Council Members
Thomas Alexander (Counsel) — Bernadine Barrett, Co-Chairperson
Carolyn Cenko — Leslie Dernule
Diane DeSoto — Tim Jevyak, Chairperson
Jim Kaspar — Christi Kordeck
Katie Kordeck — Eric Miller
Joe Peters — Daniel Straka

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: 836-9082
President: Noreen Blickel; Ext. 2230
Principal: Samantha Francis; Ext. 2258
School Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Gonzalez; Ext. 2200
School Reception & Office Associate: Nereida Harreto; Ext. 2201
School Parent Association: Heather Delgado; (312) 933-9208
Parish & School Offices Associate: Maureen Walz; Ext. 2311
School Admission: Pam Pasyk; Ext. 2309
Director of Development: Karen Leluig; Ext. 2207
Business Manager: Mike Gutcheswy; Ext. 2339

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 for 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.

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. 2323
Administrative Assistant: Rosemary Strimbu; Ext. 2326
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 Keilmann 923-9862
Boy Scouts: PJ Caraher (219) 838-2943
Career Networking Group: Donna Weidefell (219) 688-7597
Circle of Prayer: Carolyn Cenko 741-2509
carolynrealtor@sbcglobal.net
Cub Scouts: Duane Schwemlein Scubpack542@gmail.com
Finance: Barbara Shaver 838-9200
Gabriel Project: Marilyn Glennon 801-6586
Garden Club: Paul Mazerik 644-8409
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: Ralph Konkoly (219) 588-0982
Oblates: Denise Gard 219-201-4103
Respect Life: Leslie Dernule 219-741-3739
Senior Citizens: Bob O’Donnell 877-5050
Ushers Club: Jim Marmalejo 718-8704
Venture Crew: Fr. Ben Ross 322-4505

Please remember St. Thomas More in your Will and Estate Planning.
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Celebrants
Saturday, September 14
5:30 p.m. Fr. Declan McNicholas

Sunday, September 15
6:30 a.m. Fr. Declan McNicholas
8:00 a.m. Fr. Declan McNicholas
10:00 a.m. Fr. Mike Yadron
12:00 Noon Fr. Mike Yadron

Servers
SATURDAY, September 14
8:30 am G. & I. Scalzo
5:30 pm K. Cipowski, A. Forszt, H. Hamer/MC ~ Ty

SUNDAY, September 15
6:30 am A. Korfiatis, A. Contrto, K. McComis
8:00 am A., G. & L. Buksa/MC ~ Emma
10:00 am A. Klaich, M. McDunn, S. O’Rourke
MC ~ Xavian
12:00 pm M. Carahe, E. & J. Korwek/MC ~ Mary

Bulletin Articles
We are always happy to include your ministry information in the bulletin. Please be sure to submit all bulletin articles at least two (2) weeks in advance via email: bulletin@stm-church.com. Thank you for your help.

Pastoral Care Ministry
The Pastoral Care Ministry at St. Thomas More is comprised of caring, compassionate lay ministers who serve the sick, homebound and hospitalized of our parish family by bringing the Eucharist to those who cannot attend church. If you or a family member is a hospitalized or homebound parishioner, arrange a Communion visit by contacting Deacon Dave Kapala:
(219) 836-8610, #315 or dkapala@stm-church.com.

Stewardship
"Everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33

When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.

Mass Intentions
SUNDAY, September 8
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
6:30 am For The People of the Diocese Of Gary
8:00 am Rosario Merlo (Ann.) by Pietro & Rosa Merlo
10:00 am Cei Napierkowski (Ann.) by Slough Family
12:00 pm Bruno Eismim (Ann.) by Wife Maria

MONDAY, September 9
— St. Peter Claver
6:30 am Janet Lowry by Ken Darrow
8:30 am Mary Leahy by Family

TUESDAY, September 10
6:30 am Kristen Kennedy & Jennifer Evans (Ann.) by Nancy Konopasek & Julia Rack
8:30 am Janet Lowry by Ed & Debbie Pilawski
10:00 am Martin J. Pieters, Jr. by Holy Name Society
(MASS AT MED-INN CHAPEL, Group 1)

WEDNESDAY, September 11
6:30 am Joanne Darrington (Ann.) by Frank Darrington
8:30 am George Sinchak by Family

THURSDAY, September 12
6:30 am Bob Young (Ann.) by Christopher Young
9:00 am Bernie Mashura by Joseph & Carole Janusonis

FRIDAY, September 13 — St. John Chrysostom
6:30 am Deceased Members of the Zalewski Family by Pagorek Family
8:30 am Lynn Kavanagh (Ann.) by Biscan Family

SATURDAY, September 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
8:30 am Thomas Krull Sr. by Family
5:30 pm Joanne Darrington by Therese Martin

SUNDAY, September 15
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
6:30 am Raymond Mueller by Lenarae Mueller
8:00 am Genevieve Juricic (Ann.) by Family
10:00 am Ed & Irma Smiley by Ed & Carolyn Smiley
12:00 pm For The People of the Diocese Of Gary

Flu/Pneumonia Shots
You don’t need to go any further than the St. Thomas More Solar Room to stay healthy this fall & winter!
Get your seasonal immunizations!
Today: Sunday, September 8
7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Solar Room
Immunizations provided by Walgreens.
Seniors with Medicare cards are free.
Insurance will be billed for all others participants.
Please bring your insurance card and I.D.
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's said that upon reading the Gospels, Gandhi commented that he very much liked Jesus Christ. It was Christ's followers he found troublesome. One wonder who Gandhi had met and if these Christians had truly counted the cost of their faith. Following Jesus, really following Jesus, is much more challenging than we may think. He emphasizes this with strong language in this Sunday's Gospel. He compares discipleship to the carrying of one's own cross: "his own cross" - and for the need even to "hate" what could disrupt one's commitment. Some of this is standard hyperbole, exaggeration for effect common to the time period. Some of this should make us wonder how deep our discipleship goes.

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost? Jesus imagines this construction project gone wrong. Someone may lay the foundation but not have enough resources to finish. We've received the firm foundation of the sacraments - our baptism, for one, along with weekly Mass attendance and regular confession. Yet how often do we find ourselves too distracted, exhausted, or uninterested to truly build our lives on our faith? We have all met such Christians. Some days, we may be those Christians ourselves. We become the incomplete tower that confuses and baffles the onlookers. "This one began to build but did not have the resources, but we need to keep saying yes to the task. This week, consider your own discipleship. What is one area where you've become distracted or discouraged? How can that improve this week? Let God lay another brick on the tower.

Readings for Week of September 8

Sunday:  Wins 9:13-18/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 [1]/Philm 9:10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
Monday: Col 1:24–2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Col 2:6–15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab [9]/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: Nm 21:4b–9/Ps 78:1bc-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 7]/Lk 6:27-38
Next Sunday: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 [Lk 15:18]/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY, September 8
Seasonal Shots: 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Solar Room
Parish Picnic: 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the Social Center
MONDAY, September 9
Virtus Training from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Solar Room
6:30 pm Marian Rosary ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Schola Choir ~ Church
7:00 pm Peace & Social Justice ~ Teachers’ Lounge
7:30 pm Knights of Columbus ~ Weis Center

TUESDAY, September 10
9:15 am Eucharistic Adoration (until 6:30 pm) ~ Chapel
1:00 pm Prayer/Vocations ~ Chapel
6:00 pm Divine Mercy Chapel ~ Chapel
7:00 pm Baptism Preparation Class ~ Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, September 11
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 pm.)
6:30 pm Scripture Study ~ Conference Room
6:45 pm All Seasons Chorale ~ Church

THURSDAY, September 12
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes (until 6:00 pm.)
6:30 pm Career Networking Group ~ Weis Center
10:00 am Oblates ~ Conference Room

SATURDAY, September 14
9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth ~ Weis Center

SUNDAY, September 15
1:00 pm Religious Education ~ Solar Room

Blood Drive at St. Thomas More
Give blood and make this a summer of love!
Anyone can participate in our next Blood Drive
Sunday, September 29
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in the STM Gym
Appointments are appreciated and you can schedule an appointment by calling (800) 7TO-GIVE. We also welcome walk-ins. I.D. required for all donors.

Please pray for the sick of our parish...
We need to remember that we are called to a glorious future—though it might have been relatively unforgiving at first. In short, they were in their struggles. Look at their virtuous lives. I can never be like them.

We need to remember that we are called to a glorious future and that we can all make it there if we attend to what we need to do in the present. Our future is not decided. It greatly depends upon what we decide to do in the present moment.

We are all saints-in-the-making. I often say that when we celebrate our great feast: All Saints Day. It is then that we remind ourselves of our heritage and give ourselves the encouragement that we need to continue struggling for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Being a follower of Jesus Christ is not the easiest thing in the world. Being His follower means that we have to deny the call of the world. Even more, we have to do all that we can to set an example for those who have been caught up in the empty promises of the world so that they might think about their decisions, turn their lives around, and come back to the Lord.

That is what all the great saints have done for us. By looking at their example, we have been given the encouragement that we might have needed to reject the many temptations that come our way and cling more closely to the Lord.

If we live our lives correctly while here on earth, some day, someone might say the same thing about us that we say about some of our great saints. Wouldn’t it be nice to know that we set an example that gave someone hope in their own personal struggles. Wouldn’t it be great to hear God say to us at the end of our days, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Learn from the past and live for the future.

**FAITH ACTION:** Live the faith today in such a way as to provide good inspiration to others who might be struggling in their faith.

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**BEGINNING SOON**

The last two Tuesdays of September (17th and 24th) are inquiry days for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, also known as RCIA. RCIA is a process for those who are not Roman Catholic to enter the Church. There are weekly sessions with others who are inquiring. The sessions are every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. and generally last a little over an hour.

On September 17th or September 24th (you only need to come to one of the two evenings), you are invited to come to the Parish Conference Room, enter at the Parish Office, to sign up and receive your study materials. Classes will begin in earnest on Tuesday, October 1st.

If you have been baptized in another faith, it would be helpful for you to bring a copy of your baptismal certificate with you to the September inquiry meeting.

The RCIA is also appropriate for those who may have been baptized as Catholic but who were never catechized or finished their sacraments. If you have been baptized but never received your First Communion or Confirmation, you are welcome to the RCIA as well.

Those who come to the weekly sessions are received into the Church at the 8:00 p.m. Vigil Mass of Easter on April 11, 2020.

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**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE**

Two little children, a boy and a girl, walked hand-in-hand to a neighbor’s house. Standing on her tip-toes, the little girl was just able to reach the doorbell. A woman greeted them and asked what they wanted.

“We’re playing house,” the little girl answered. “This is my husband and I am his wife. We wanted to visit our neighbors. May we come in?”

Thoroughly enchanted by the scene confronting her, the lady said, “By all means, do come in.” Once inside, she offered the children lemonade and cookies which they graciously accepted.

When a second tall glass of lemonade was offered, the little girl refused by saying, “No thank you. We have to go now. I’m afraid that my husband just wet his pants.”

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**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:

- **September 8:** Rev. Roman S. Wojcicki (1963)
- **September 9:** Rev. Paul P. Jakulevicius (1992)
- **September 11:** Deacon Martin Gomez (2011)
- **September 12:** Rev. John A. Halo (1986)  
- **September 13:** Rev. Bernard F. Shank (1997)
- **September 14:** Rev. John A. Hogan (2014)
**Religious Education**

**Religious Education Classes Start Soon**
We are looking to have a great start to our year as classes resume on Wednesday/Thursday, September 4/5. We can’t wait to see our students again!

**September Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>17 Parent Confirmation Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/19</td>
<td>Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/26</td>
<td>Class</td>
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**October Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>9/10 Parent Confirmation Commitment Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/17</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Parent First Penance/Communion Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/24</td>
<td>Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Family Formation Session: 1:00-2:00 p.m.—Gym</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/30</td>
<td>Class</td>
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**Virtus Training Sessions**
The Virtus Program deals with the awareness and prevention of the sexual abuse of children.

**Anyone 18 years or older must be Virtus trained to volunteer or work in the school or parish.**

As part of our diocesan Synod, we are trying to get all parishioners into our safe environment program. The more people involved, the better this works. Please come to training, even if you are not required to do so. We all need to do our part to keep God’s children and His Church safe. Please join us for last scheduled Virtus Training at STM:

**Monday, September 9**
6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Solar Room

*Due to the content of the program, absolutely no children are permitted to attend the training.*

Please go to www.virtus.org to reserve your seat for Virtus training. Click on “First Time Registrant” and “View List of Sessions”. Organization is “Diocese of Gary”. Please arrive promptly for the training and enter through the gymnasium doors under the carport (north side of building).

**Join the Marian Rosary**
Join our prayer group to pray the Rosary, Chaplet and offer prayers to Mary. Call Tom Mordaunt at (219) 922-6604 for info.

*We meet on Monday nights*
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel and all are invited to join us.

**Lectors for the Week**

**Sunday, September 15**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Richard Gard &amp; Phil McIntosh</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Paul Liszewski &amp; Sue Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Diane DeSoto &amp; Bill McDunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 Noon</td>
<td>Marilyn Pajor &amp; Cheryl Suwardi</td>
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<table>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Main: Mary Jo Jez</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Main: Joe &amp; Cindy Sindall</td>
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<td>Chapel: Mary Silvasi</td>
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<td>Choir: Jack &amp; Judy Mateja</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Main: Andrea Mazerek</td>
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<td>Chapel: Pischner Family</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Choir: Dwight &amp; Mary Ann Reed</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 Noon</td>
<td>Chapel: Susan Anglin</td>
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**Saturday, September 14**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Joe Dubczak &amp; Judith Hamer</td>
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**Nursery Schedule**

All children, infant to age 5, are welcome to join us in our parish Nursery during the Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Mass. **We are still in need of Nursery volunteers!**

Any teen or adult who is willing to help should contact Kaaren Mashura at (219) 836-5079 or email: kaarenann@aol.com. Virtus training is a must.

**September 15**

Kim, Addison & Andrew

**September 22**

Jennifer Anderson • Kaaren Mashura

**September 29**

Ann, Eileen & Paul Harkenrider

**Fr. Declan Leads Pilgrimage**

Join Fr. Declan McNicholas as he leads young adults from the Diocese of Gary on a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi.

**May 27—June 3, 2020**

Open to all young adults, post-high school to 35. Spaces limited. For more information visit: youngadultpilgrimages.com.
Have a Great Day!
Best wishes to all the exceptional people called “Grandparent”!
A note of thanks to the many grandparents who help our students get to and from school each day, who help with homework and projects, and most especially to all those grandparents who volunteer at St. Thomas More School to make our school environment a better place for both students and staff...
we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!
We hope you have an outstanding Grandparents Day!
You are appreciated more than words can express. Thank you for all you do!

Picture Day: Big Smiles and Fancy
A “dress-up” day for the students of St. Thomas More School was held last week for Picture Day. We know the photos will be great for these adorable students!

Save the Date!
Brews and Bites
Friday October 4th
Wicker Memorial Park Pavilion
7pm - 11pm
To Benefit St. Thomas More School

**Altar & Rosary Society**

Our new year kicks off with one of our favorite events! All women of the parish are invited to join us.

**Potluck Dinner**
6:45 p.m. in the Cafeteria

**Wednesday, September 11**

All women of the parish are invited to attend. Please bring a favorite main dish, salad or vegetable to share. Altar & Rosary will provide the desserts.

For more information, please contact Cindy at (219) 923-9862 or Kathleen at (219) 972-0539.

**Save the Date!**
It may seem like a long way off, but planning is underway for our Annual Altar & Rosary Bazaar & it’s going to be great!

**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

We look forward to sharing more details soon. See you there!

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**Knights Golf Outing**

Everyone is invited to the annual Msgr. Weis Council Knights of Columbus Golf Outing at beautiful, nearby Wicker Park in Highland, IN

**Saturday September 28, 2019**

Registration at 7:30 a.m. • Tee-offs begin at 8:00 a.m.

Refreshments & food to follow golfing at St. Thomas More.

$60 per Golfer: includes greens fee, cart, course food/drink tickets, prizes and meal & beverages after golf.

The event is open to all Knights, family, friends and parishioners.

Join us for a day of fellowship & fun!

**Seeking Donations**

We are also seeking donations of items to be used for hole prizes and outing gift bags.

For more information, or to donate goods or services, please contact Dave Kritzer (219) 577-5462 or dkritzer@sbcglobal.net.

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**Oblates of St. Benedict**

All are welcomed to join us

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Conference Room

Join us in praying Lectio Divina. We will also be discussing “Wisdom: The Good Life Wisdom Literature and the Rule of Benedict”. Learn how it applies to daily life.

---

**Religious Formation & Education**

We’ve started a new year and continue to work, helping the parishioners of St. Thomas More grow in their faith and spirituality. All are welcome to join us for our next meeting:

**Monday, September 16, 2019**

7:00 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room

**Upcoming Meetings:**

October 21 • November 18 • No December Meeting

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**Live Christ/Share Christ**

Join us as we continue our work to rekindle and deepen our faith through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we may know Christ and love him more deeply. In response to God’s love, we can share our faith and love by the way we live as an example to family and friends.

**All are invited to join us!**

Please join us at our next meeting:

**Saturday, September 14**

9:00 a.m. at the Weis Center

**Speaker:** Mark Bittner

**Topic:** Devotion to Mary

Our meetings are held on the second Saturday of every month.

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**Our Music Ministries Need You!**

**Share Your Talents with Our Parish**

**Youth Chorale**

We are in need of new members for the Youth Chorale. **Youth Chorale is open to all children in Grades 2 to 8.**

We sing twice a month at the Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Mass. Practices are from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on the days that we sing. We also sing for Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m. Mass.

**Handbell Choir**

We are in need of five new handbell choir members this year. Choir members need to be available to practice on Wednesday evenings and play at the Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass and Christmas Eve. Only basic music reading skills needed.

If you are interested in joining either of these ministries & sharing your talents with our parish, please contact Laura Javorka at (219) 836-8610, ext. 2340 or ljavorka@stm-church.com.

Choirs will be starting up again soon and we look forward to seeing you at one of our practices.
Parishioners & School Families
If you are a parishioner, STMS parent or grandparent:  
We Need Your Help!
We are in need of morning assistance in our school parking lot to help insure the safety of our students as they arrive.

Parking Lot Monitor
7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Monday-Wednesday & Friday. Thursdays: 7:45-8:45 a.m. on Thursdays. Paid position or get volunteer hours.
If you are a parishioner who attends Mass every morning, consider helping an hour before or after Mass to keep our children safe. If you, or someone you know, is interested, please send contact Dr. Samantha Francis at sfrancis@stm-school.com.

Gifts of Love & Warmth
Please note: the Gifts of Love & Warmth Ministry will now be meeting at the Weis Center every Friday beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Senior Citizens
Join other seniors from our parish for a great year of fun activities, information and fellowship! All St. Thomas More senior citizens are invited to join this lively and enjoyable group. All meetings will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Weis Center, (unless otherwise noted) Annual dues are only $10 for the year (due at your first meeting).

Join us as we continue our new year:
Wednesday, September 18
Social Gathering

Wednesday, October 2
Business Meeting
Guest Speaker: The Laughing Lady

Wednesday, October 23
Day of Reflection
9:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel of St. Thomas More
Guest speaker & lunch to follow.
Advanced reservations required.

2019/2020 Officers
Bob O'Donnell  
President
(219) 877-5050  
cb_odonnell@hotmail.com

Len Czapkowicz  
Treasurer
(219) 836-2616

Marion Case  
Vice-President
(219) 743-3543
mdcase@comcast.net

Felicia Makowski  
Secretary
(219) 836-8266

Herb Cleve  
Past President
(219) 670-2982

St. Vincent de Paul at Work
The months of April to June were busy for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Our mission is to support the less fortunate in the community by delivering food and assisting with utility payments such as NIPSCO bills, rent payments and water bills. During this three-month period, we were able to help those in our community, thanks to your support, as follows:
• Delivered food to 87 families (total of 240 people assisted)
• Assisted 90 households (total of 232 people) with payments for NIPSCO, rent or water bills

You are the reason we can help others!
Without the generous support of our parishioners, we would not be able to do what we do. We would like to thank all of you for your generous support of our ministry! You deserve a pat on the back for your financial stewardship of our organization.

Items Needed for Our Pantry:
- Pork & Beans
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Meal/Hamburger
- Helpers
- Rice Helpers/Sides
- Potato Helpers/Sides
- Frosting
- Peanut Butter • Jelly
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Meats
- Canned Fruit
- Tuna
- Soup
- Cereal
- Toilet Paper
- Dish Soap
- Bar Soap

Thank you for your generosity. To volunteer or learn more about SVDP, contact Mike Martinelli at (219) 836-8610.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Friends of the Poor Walk/Run
It is once again time for the annual St. Vincent de Paul Walk for the Poor.
Consider joining us on Saturday, September 28 at Lemon Lake Park to raise funds to assist the less fortunate in our community. All funds donated through our parish will be used to directly assist those whom the St. Thomas More St. Vincent de Paul Society serves.
Walkers are encouraged to make a personal donation and collect pledges from supporters. One may also make a donation if they are unable to attend the walk.
The walk will be held at Lemon Lake County Park in Crown Point, IN on September 28, 2019.
Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m.
Walk commences at 10:00 a.m.
You can pre-register (forms are in the Parish Office) or Sign-up after Mass on September 14 & 15.
You may also register online at www.fopwalk.org.
Jesus taught us to have empathy and always be non-judgemental.
He wanted us to care about others and help them when in need. Please consider supporting us in this mission. Thank you!

“You can’t understand someone until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes.”
**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

**Wednesday, September 11, 2019**  
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  
**Topic:**  
**Opportunities Offered by Your Local McDonalds**  
Presented by:  
Mr. Robert Mazzaro, Owner/Operator  
Mr. Jose Martinez, Training Manager

Where: STM Weis Center  
8635 Calumet Avenue • Munster  
When: The 2nd Wednesday of Every Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.–8:30 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 critiqued.

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**Evening of Reflection**

All men of the Diocese are invited to attend our retreat  
**Thursday, October 10 — 6:00 p.m.**  
at the Carmelite Monastery in Munster.  
Arrival time: 6:00 p.m. Mass at 6:30 p.m. with dinner & program to follow Mass.  
Our retreat leader will be our very own pastor,  
**Reverend Michael Yadron.**  
Seating is on a first come, first served basis with limited capacity.  
A donation of $20 per person is requested to cover the cost of a delicious dinner and fellowship with our pastor.

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**Reservation Form**

Please enclose your payment in an envelope with this reservation form and place in the Sunday collection basket, drop off at the Parish Office, or mail to:  
St. Thomas More  
8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321  
**No later than October 3rd.**

Name_______________________________________  
Phone_______________________________________  
Email______________________________________  
Amount Enclosed ($20/guest) $___________________

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**Doubling Up On Prayer**

Our parish Synod group **Faith Reignited** is teaming up with the **Circle of Prayer** to offer prayers for our parishioners in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month.  
Send your prayer requests to STMPrayerteam@gmail.com. A member of the Faith Reignited team will be in the Chapel on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month and will include your requests in their Holy Hour prayers. We will also pray for the intentions that the Circle of Prayer members receive during the month.

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**Planting Possibilities**  
**Annual Mum Sale**  
Weis Center Parking Lot  
**Saturday, September 14**  
8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.  
Find beautiful, florist quality mums to brighten your décor for fall.  
Come early for the best selection.
**STMS T.R.I.P.**

Everyone can take advantage of the quick and easy T.R.I.P. Program at St. Thomas More School. This convenient service delivers gift cards for restaurant, vacations, grocery, gas and retail outlets right to you (or to the Parish Office), and best of all, your orders help our students. Orders are always due in the School or Parish Office by 8:15 a.m. on Monday processing days (unless noted) and are available for pick up two (2) days later in the Parish Office. Or have your order sent home with your favorite STMS student. For info or to sign up, email: stmstrip@stm-school.com.

**Next Processing Day:** Monday, September 23, 2019

**Asian Catholic Unity Day**

Celebrate the many traditions and rich cultures of our diocesan Asian population.

**Sunday, September 8 at 11:00 a.m. Mass**  
Our Lady of Consolation • 8303 Taft Street • Merrillville

**The Mystery of the Eucharist**

St. Michael Parish in Schererville invites everyone to “Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist”  
**September 10—First of 4 Sessions**

St. Patrick Hall at 7:00 p.m. Register: Janice at (219) 322-4505

**Bishop Noll Events**

1519 Hoffman Street • Hammond, IN • (219) 932-9058

**Homecoming Game & Tailgate Party**

Alumni and friends of Bishop Noll Institute will reunite on **Friday, October 11** as part of the annual Tailgate Party. Homecoming football game features BNI vs. South Central High School at 7:00 p.m. Tailgate Party begins after the game in the fieldhouse (until midnight). Tickets are $25 (cash only) payable at the door & includes food, drink and entertainment. Attendees must be 21+. Many sponsorship opportunities are available. Info: Juli Sandoval at (219) 932-9058, ext. 1005 or jsandoval@bishopnoll.org.

**Experience Vatican Here in NWI**

Visit Vatican City, the seat of Catholicism and the top tour destination in the world, through the lens and descriptions of degreed/certified Vatican guides.  
**October 27 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

St. John the Evangelist Church • 10701 Olcott • St. John, IN  
Tickets are $25/person and can be purchased at BNI.

**Class of 1959 Reunion**

Join the Class of 1959 on October 5, 2019. Contact John Schreiner, 175 N. Winterberry, Valparaiso, IN 46385 for info.

**Class of 1974 Reunion**

Weekend of September 27. Check Facebook: "Bishop Noll Class of 1974" or Maria Trevino Callas atmcallas2@comcast.net.

**Class of 1984 Reunion**

The Class of ‘84 is planning a 35-year reunion for fall 2019. Stay tuned to bishopnoll.org for details.

**Class of 2009 Reunion**

Registration information at: stmstrip@stm-school.com.

**Support St. Joseph’s Home**

The Guild of the St. Joseph’s Home presents  
**An Autumn Night**

**Wednesday, September 18, 2019**

Villa Cesare • 900 Eagle Ridge • Schererville, IN  
Shop the Bountiful Bazaar with Cocktails beginning at 4:00 p.m. Dinner by the Fire at 6:00 p.m.  
$55/person includes music, photo booth and Fashion Show with stylings by Alexis Finer Fashions and Albert’s Jewelry. Info & tickets: Pam (219) 972-0333 or jpy021282@comcast.net. The St. Joseph’s Carmelite Home in East Chicago is a nonprofit home for children in crisis, helping local children for 104 years.

**Catholic Charities Food Pantry**

Catholic Charities will be distributing food twice a week:  
**Tuesdays: 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**  
Clothing distribution:  
**1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month • 10:00 a.m. to Noon**  
Volunteers are needed to help sort, package, distribute & deliver to the homebound and work the mobile pantry & Angel Closet. For info or to volunteer, contact Pantry Manager, Liz Acevedo (219) 397-5803, ext. 205 or eacevedo@catholic-charities.org.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

Don’t miss out on the upcoming enrichment for married couples and religious on the **Weekend of October 11-13, 2019** at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Elk Grove Village, IL. The enrichment begins with a private weekend experience featuring practical tools for growing in loving relationships, and provides ongoing enrichments after the weekend from the Worldwide Marriage Encounter community. For information on applying, please go to wmmeg-chicagoland.org and say yes today.

**Andean Season of Giving**

**June to September 2019**

The true cost of educating a 59er is $12,000 annually, yet tuition only covers 73% of that cost, a statistic that is true of Catholic high schools across the country. We rely on the generosity of our Diocese along with our alumni, parents, and friends just like you to provide a family, faith-filled environment for our students. Please consider donating.

**Rachel’s Vineyard**

**Post-Abortion Retreat**

Rachel’s Vineyard offers retreats for women & men who have experienced abortion. The weekend focuses on the love of God, His mercy & new beginnings and hope through scripture, meditation & Sacrament. Cost is minimal.  
Next retreat: **September 13-15, 2019**.  
All calls are completely confidential. Contact Rosanne Kouris at (219) 769-9292, #259 or Rachel’s Vineyard directly: (219) 552-2944 or email: nwinvr@outlook.com for information.

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**Class of 2009 Reunion**

6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Saturday, October 12 at Set ‘Em Up Lanes in Griffith. Carï Trevino at (708) 224-1029 or ctrevino@loeb.com.

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Order Delicious Pierogis
The Pierogi Sale at St. Josaphat Church, corner of Ridge Road and White Oak in Munster, has returned after a summer break. Order no later than 9:00 a.m. each Thursday at (219) 838-9811 and pick-up the following day, Friday, between Noon & 3:00 p.m. Kraut, potato, cheese or prune: $10/dozen or $5/half.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed
Meals on Wheels is in need of volunteer delivery persons for the Hammond & Griffith communities. If you’d like to make a difference in your community, why not consider delivering meals for our clients? Training is twice a month in our office at 8446 Virginia Street, Merrillville. Call Joan, Volunteer Manager, at (219) 756-3663 to register for a training session.

“Fall” in Love with Hammond Senior Center
All Seniors are invited to the Pulaski Park Senior Center, where autumn presents many enjoyable activities and opportunities to share with friends. Thursday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m.: Barbara Rossi facilitates a Medicare Supplements Discussion followed by a September celebration. September 1 to October 1: “Blanket Brigade” to aid the Hammond City Rescue Mission, which accommodates 55 men. We need new/slightly used blankets for these men’s beds. Drop-off at the Center on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. until October 1st. The Senior Center is located in Pulaski Park at 137th Street and Hohman Avenue in North Hammond and all seniors are welcome to come, share and “fall” into the season with us.

Polish Heritage Festival
Sunday, September 15 at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. US Hwy 12 in Michigan City, IN. Polish-English Mass in the Symphony Garden at 10:30 a.m., followed by food and festivities from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Featured will be Polish food from Hammond’s Cavalier Inn and baked goods from Bakers Dozen of Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. until October 1st. The Senior Center is located in Pulaski Park at 137th Street and Hohman Avenue in North Hammond and all seniors are welcome to come, share and “fall” into the season with us.

Money Management Help
Take control of your money with the help of Financial Peace University (FPU) classes beginning Sunday, September 15 at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Whiting. This 9-lesson course is designed to help you build a budget, dump debt, grow your wealth, and leave money stress behind! Motivate your money management, based on biblical wisdom and common sense. Membership, with access to exclusive online when you register. Contact Laura Ieraci at (219) 659-0277 for info. Sign up at www.fpu.com/1090200.

St. James the Less Events

Book Club
Pope Francis said, “the Rosary is a prayer that always accompanies me; it is also the prayer of ordinary people and the saints; it is a prayer from my heart.” Make the Rosary come alive by reading Praying The Rosary Like Never Before, written by Edward Sri, and join the St. James the Less Book Club. Sign-up and purchase book ($15) on September 19 from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Meetings to discuss the book will take place each Thursday in October (October 3-24) from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the church in Highland (corner of 45th & Kennedy Avenue). For more information, please contact Phyllis Steiner at (219) 934-0967.

Rummage Sale
The St. James Women’s Guild will be holding their Fall Rummage Sale in the Parish Hall on September 25-27. Find the perfect treasure, enjoy baked goods and pierogi, too! Drop-off donations on September 24 & 25. Help is needed all days. If interested, call Chris at (219) 810-2043. Pre-order pierogis by calling Jo at (219) 838-5953 no later than September 13, 2019.

Spred Ministry
Get involved with the Spred program, a way to help you grow in your faith while helping reach out to those more vulnerable and guide them, as a friend within a small faith community. Join us! Spred Information Gathering at St. Mary Parish, 525 N. Broad Street in Griffith on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Miscarriage Awareness
Representatives from Miscarriage, Mothers & Others, a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity, will be available to provide information and resources on Wednesday, September 18 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Crown Point Community Library, 122 N. Main Street. The topic of discussion will be “Acknowledging a Pregnancy Loss”. For info, contact (219) 730-9199 or info@miscarriedbaby.com.

Benefit Jazz Concert
The St. Maria Goretti is hosting a Jazz Benefit Concert on Sunday, September 22 at Casa Maria Banquet Hall, 500 Northgate Drive, Dyer from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Reservations required. Tickets: $40/person includes live music by Jim Markiewicz & Smooth Groove, wine tasting, hors d’oeuvres and dessert. Cash bar. Call (219) 865-5482 to make reservations. All proceeds from the event benefit St. Maria Goretti Food Pantry, serving approximately 120 families monthly from Dyer, Highland, Griffith, Munster, Schererville and St. John.

St. Stan’s Class of 1969
Calling all graduates of St. Stanislaus School Class of 1969. Plans are in the making for a 50th Class Reunion this October. If you are interested in attending, please contact Anita (Pasztor) Kozlowski 929-7920 or Chris ( Nawrocki) Holcomb 844-4649.

Parables Retreat at Lindenwood
Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center to host retreat with Fr. Jerry Schweitzer on September 27-28, 2019 at the Center in Donaldson, IN. Fr. Jerry will use the Parables in the Gospel of Luke to illustrate how Jesus Christ presents images that challenge us to think differently about our Christian way of life. Single & double occupancy or commuter option. Costs: $50 to $130 option. Meals, materials, refreshments and Mass included. Register at Lindenwood.org or call (574) 935-1780.

St. Florian Fall Spectacular
One Night in Rome: One Night to Remember!
Saturday, October 5th from 5:30-11:30 p.m. Enjoy a full Italian buffet dinner, live entertainment and fun Celebrity Fashion Show and music of Andrea Boccelli – Frank Sinatra and others. Raffles, 50/50, prizes. Tickets are limited. On sale now at Rectory Office. No tickets available at door. $30 per Adult; $15: 14yrs. and under.
13145 S. Houston; Chicago (Hegewisch) (773) 646-4877.
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