

St. Thomas More Mission

September 12, 2021



Sunday, September 12, 2021
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 17, 2021
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday Vigil, 4:30 pm
Sunday, 10:00 am

Weekday: Monday-Friday, 12:00 pm
Saturday, 3:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:30-4:20 pm

Sunday, 9:30-9:50 am

Thursdays, 1:00-2:00 pm

Also, you may request an appointment with a priest for confession.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays, 12:30-2:00 pm

Devotions

First Friday, 12:00 pm Mass, followed by adoration, First Friday Prayers and the Rosary.

SEMINARY COLLECTION

The Seminary Collection will be taken next weekend on Saturday, September 18th and Sunday, September 19th.

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

Today's Gospel reading is the central turning point of the Gospel of Mark. Thus far in the story Jesus has appeared as a healer and exorcist, a wonder-worker, displaying an "authority" (*exousía*) that throws the Pharisees, upholders of a conventional orthodoxy, into disarray. The meaning of his activities is far from clear and produces a host of conflicting interpretations. Now Jesus turns to his disciples, and to us, the readers of the Gospel, with the question: "Who do you say that I am?"

When John the Baptist asked, "are you he who is to come or should we look for another" (Mt 11:3; Lk 7:19), Jesus did not answer directly, but pointed to the signs of healing he had worked. These can be interpreted as messianic signs, but Jesus himself in his humanity may have been surprised by them and may have come to discern his own messianic vocation, and all that it entailed, only by degrees.

Peter's perception that the authority of Jesus can only be that of the expected Messiah earns him a blessing in Matthew's version of this story, and also a title: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church" (Mt 16:18). Matthew and Luke project a vision of the splendor of the Church that we do not find in Mark. In Mark's story the dramatic revelation of Jesus's identity is quickly surpassed by the command of secrecy, followed by the first of the three passion predictions, and the rebuke to Peter for "setting his mind not on divine things but on human things." In his resistance to the message of self-denial and the Cross Peter speaks on behalf of all of us. Jesus is not the kind of Messiah that any of us would have chosen. But God chose a weak and suffering man to be the savior of weak and suffering humanity.

The place where this dialogue takes place is one of the many towns throughout the Roman world with the name Caesarea, referring to the Emperor. Emperors, to judge from Robert Graves' classic work, "*I, Claudius*," were often bloated, ruthless egoists, indulging every obscene passion—that seems true at least of Tiberius, Caligula, and Nero. The sovereignty of ego might flatter our tastes at first, but it ends in horror.

A Messiah is also a King, successor of David. But Christ as King, and the Kingdom of God, belong to a different reality from the earthly power and authority supremely embodied in the Roman emperor. For the rest of the Gospel, Jesus is oriented to Jerusalem and his journey is marked by two further passion predictions. His Messiahhood remains hidden. Only at 14:62, in response to the direct question of the high priest—"Are you the Messiah?"—, does Jesus at last declare his identity openly: "I am, and you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven."

This theme of the "Messianic secret" has fascinated theological and literary students of Mark's Gospel. Perhaps it suggests that the title of "Messiah" does not fully suit the singular event of Jesus, and that indeed any title will not quite fit. Jesus is more question than answer, a divine question opened up at the heart of human history. Paraphrasing St. Paul, we might say, "The questions of God are more saving than the answers of men." No matter how securely we define the nature of Christ, in Biblical study and in doctrinal formulations, he will always remain one who questions us. Who do we say that Jesus is? He is the crucified and risen one, who will come in glory.

Where do we find Christ today? We find His True Presence in the Holy Eucharist. We find Him in His Holy Temple, the Living Lord in the Tabernacles of our churches. In a mystical sense, Mother Teresa of Calcutta might also point out that, in a certain sense, Christ is crucified all around us, and the power of His resurrection is at work everywhere as well. We miss seeing this when we cling to our selfish security, "for whoever would save his life will lose it."

THREE TREES

There were three young trees growing together in the forest. They were young, healthy, and ambitious. They compared their dreams. One wanted to be part of the structure of a castle or a palace, so it would be a spectator in the lives of the high and mighty of society. The second wanted to end up as the mast in one of the tall ships, sailing around the world with a great sense of adventure. The third hoped to end up as part of some public monument, where the public would stop and admire.

Years passed by, and all three were cut down. The first was chopped up, and parts of it were put together to form a manger for a stable in Bethlehem. The second was cut down, and the trunk was scooped out to form a boat, which was launched on the Sea of Galilee. The third was cut into sections, two of which were put together, to form a cross on Calvary. Each had a unique and special part to play in the one great story of redemption.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office

2825 West 81st St., Chicago, IL 60652
Phone 773-436-4444 - Fax 773-778-9087
Email address: stmrc@comcast.net
Visit our official Facebook page at:
St. Thomas More Chicago
Website address:
<http://stthomasmorecatholicchurch.org/>

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday-Sunday - Closed

Rectory

Rev. Scott Haynes, Associate Pastor

Business Manager

Pat Lave

Coordinator of Religious Ed

Debbie Ksycki

Registration

New parishioners should register at the parish office.

Religious Goods Store

Open on the third weekend of the month.

SACRAMENTS

Visitations

Hospital or Homebound; Please contact the Parish Office at 773-436-4444 as soon as possible for Communion, Confession or Anointing of the Sick.

Marriage

Registered and supporting members should call the parish office. A date should not be set until consulting with the Pastor.

Baptism

Registered parishioners should contact the parish office.

Funeral

Registered parishioners should contact the parish office.

Bulletin

Please submit all requests for bulletin announcement on Mondays by 10:00 am.

SUNDAY, September 12

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am For the Parishioners

MONDAY, September 13

St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

12:00 pm Bob Dapkus (Family)
Health & Blessings for Jose D. & Guadalupe Razo
(Martin & Marta Razo)

TUESDAY, September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

12:00 pm Ernest Stankiewicz (Trudy Maskin)
For the Intentions of Franciscan Sister Servants of
Redemptive Love (Sr. Maria-Paulina)

WEDNESDAY, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

12:00 pm Birthday Blessings for Susan Zempich &
For the Repose of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Don & Mary Tadda)

THURSDAY, September 16

Sts. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

12:00 pm For the Repose of the Soul of Richard Grothe &
The Holy Souls in Purgatory (Don & Mary Tadda)
Robert Jendzio (William & Theresa Jendzio)

FRIDAY, September 17

St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

12:00 pm Juan & Jovita Lopez (Martin & Marta Razo)
For the Intentions of Franciscan Sister Servants of
Redemptive Love (Sr. Maria-Paulina)

SATURDAY, September 18

3:00 pm For the Repose of the Souls of Peggy, Lillian &
Leonard Bodach & The Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Don & Mary Tadda)
Jeanne Barry McGahon (Barbara Barry)

(Vigil Mass)

4:30 pm For the Intentions of Sr. Sheena (Jim Farrell)
Phyllis Spizziri (STM Altar Guild)

- DePaul Center for Marriage/Family Counseling
Fr. Bob Rohrich, 212 E. Custer St., Lemont, IL
630-257-9235
- Catholic Charities:
General Number 312-655-7000
Counseling Center: 312-655-7725
- Catholictherapists.com
- <http://www.purityispossible.com/>
- Project Rachel (post-abortion healing): 888-456-4673
- Suicide Prevention: 800-273-8255

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR THE SICK



Janet Abramic
Sandy Badke
Crispin Bofinger
Joseph Carrabotta
Sarah Dalton
Elaine Eberhardt
Diane & Jim Flaherty
Sandra Halper
William & Theresa Jenzio

Daniel Jiminez
Maria Jiminez
Rebecca Jiminez
John Kniecik
Cathy Lahart
Mike Lave
Kenneth Novickis
Celeste Phifer
Louis & Jeanine

Dolores Pogor
Tricia Quasthoff
Walter Quasthoff
Len Reilly
Francis "Red" Rose
Pat Sheehy
Phyllis Spizziri
Mary Tadda
Ken Watterson

*Omnipotent and eternal God, the everlasting Salvation of those who believe,
hear us on behalf of Thy sick.*

ALTAR GUILD CORNER



Hope everyone is well and safe. Just a reminder that your Altar Guild Dues envelope is in your packet of envelopes - still \$5.00. Thank you to those that have turned in their dues and the many generous donations. They are very much appreciated.

Altar Guild Officers

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CCD AT ST. THOMAS MORE

We are preparing for Registration for Religious Education classes for those wishing to prepare for the sacraments of Penance, First Holy Communion or Confirmation. **Please register your children after 10 am Mass in the foyer of the church on Sun. Sept. 5th or Sun. Sept. 12th.**

Bring a copy of each student's Baptismal certificate with you (plus their First Communion certificate if registering for Confirmation.)

Classes will be held via Zoom in the evenings and will begin the week of September 13. Class days and times will be determined once registration is completed and classes are formed. We will be using the Baltimore Catechism as the basis of our study.

For families who are already registered parishioners, the family registration fee is \$200. For families who are not already registered parishioners of St. Thomas More, the family registration fee is \$250. For all students, there is an additional \$25 book fee per student. All registration fees and book fees must be paid in full on the day of registration.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lynn Abramic at (708) 296.6840.



Religious Education

FOR ALL WHO SERVE IN THE MILITARY INCLUDING:



PFC Michael Chesna, Marines
MSG Kevin Daley
Cpl. Brian Husum
AZ2 Marcellus J. Lane - R.I.P.
PVT. Andy Oziemkiewicz
PFC. Luis Rosales
LCPL. Xavier Rosales

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COLLECTIONS

Check back next week.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF MARY—SEPTEMBER 12

Today we have the feast of the Holy Name of Mary. And when it comes to calling upon the name of Mary, there is no struggle too enormous, and no struggle too personal or too little. In the Bible, the name wields a mysterious power. Names are not to be pronounced casually or lightly. Names are not to be taken in vain. The invocation of the name renders present the one who is named. So often as you pronounce the sweet name of Mary with devotion and confidence, Mary is present to you, ready to help. So often as you pronounce the sweet name of Mary, you have her full and undivided attention. The saints, drawing on a verse from the Song of Songs, compare the name of Mary to a healing oil. Oil heals the sick, gives off a sweet fragrance, and nourishes fire. In the same way the name of Mary is like a balm on the wounds of the soul; there is no disease of the soul, however malignant, that does not yield to the power of the name of Mary. The sound of Mary's name causes joy to spring up; the repetition of Mary's name warms the heart.

The Cistercians and Carthusians, and other others as well, give to every monk and every nun the sweet name of Mary, as a sign of mystical identification with her, a pledge of entrustment to her, and a seal and safeguard of the monastic consecration. We share an intimate bond with Mary through our Marian consecration, as we entrust everything to her. Through this we have an identification with the Blessed Virgin Mary in all her mysteries, especially in the "Yes" of the Annunciation and in her Compassion at the foot of the Cross. Our relationship with Mary is reinforced through our consecration to her. We place ourselves under her protection. The sophisticated and clever of the world, high and dry in their rationalism, smile condescendingly at such practices. But the saints, I tell you, think otherwise. The saints understand the power of the name of Mary. For the saints there can never be too much of Mary. No one has better spoken of the Holy Name of Mary than Saint Bernard. Listen to him. Allow his words to plant deep within your hearts the gift of an abiding devotion to Mary's sweet name: "In dangers, in hardships, in every doubt, think of Mary, call out to Mary. Keep her in your mouth, keep her in your heart. Follow the example of her life, and you will obtain the favour of her prayer. Following her, you will never go astray. Asking her help, you will never despair. Keeping her in your thoughts, you will never wander away. With your hand in hers, you will never stumble. With her protecting you, you will not be afraid. With her leading you, you will never tire. Her kindness will see you through to the end. Then you will know by your own experience how true it is that the Virgin's name was Mary." —Fr. Scott Haynes

OUR LADY OF SORROWS—SEPTEMBER 15

Annually on September 15th, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Over the centuries, the Holy Catholic Church celebrated two similar feasts during the liturgical calendar? The purpose of those feasts was firstly to commemorate the spiritual martyrdom of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her compassion with the sufferings of her Divine Son. Secondly, it was to commemorate today's Feasts that is called "Our Lady of Sorrows" in devotion to the seven dolors of Mary. The dolors of Mary are: 1) The prophecy of Simeon, 2) The flight into Egypt, 3) The loss of the Child Jesus at Jerusalem, 4) Meeting Jesus on the road to Calvary, 5) The standing at the foot of the Cross, 6) The descent of Jesus from the Cross, and 7) The burial of Jesus.

Today's Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows draws our hearts towards the Blessed Virgin Mary in compassion for the motherly sufferings that she endured during the life of Jesus on earth. Early in the life of Jesus, Simeon prophesied that the soul of Mary would be pierced by a sword. [Lk. 2:35]. Many may view the statement of Simeon as a horrible thing to say to a young mother. But others view this as the first step to prepare Mary for what was to come. After all, not long after the visit to the Temple, having been warned by an angel in a dream, Mary and Joseph had to escape to Egypt to protect Jesus from king Herod who massacred all the children under the age of two. [Mt. 2:13-18]. This event parallels what is going on in many countries that are torn by civil war. How many families are living in refugee camps or had to immigrate to foreign countries to escape those who are kidnapping and murdering the fathers, the mothers and even the children? How many families had to escape from their homeland to protect their daughters from being raped by mercenaries and soldiers who have no morals whatsoever? These families can associate with the sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

It was not until about ten years later that Mary suffered her next greatest sorrow. Returning home after participating in the festival of the Passover in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph realized that Jesus was not with the group of travellers. They had to return to Jerusalem and look for Him. [Lk. 2:41-52]. Many parents can associate with this frightening experience. How many parents have lost their child in a supermarket, at a campground or even experienced an incident where their child wandered away from the back yard and could not be found for a few hours? How many parents have experienced the loss of a child due to a messy separation and custody battle? How many parents have permanently lost their child, not knowing his or her whereabouts? Such traumatic events truly pierces the soul of the person involved. This is something that many cannot perceive unless they personally experience it. Over and over the aforementioned, the soul of Mary was pierced when she saw the condition of Jesus on the road to Calvary, when He was crucified, when she stood at the foot of the Holy Cross, when the body of Jesus was taken down from the Cross and when Jesus was buried.

These events remind many parents of their personal family experiences. Some parents have seen their son or daughter beaten so badly that his or her face could no longer be recognized. Some had to identify the body of their child who was murdered in a random shooting. Many parents in war ridden countries had to care for their sons after they had been kidnapped, beaten and even mutilated. How great is the suffering of these parents. How much greater was the suffering of the Blessed Virgin Mary. For she who enjoyed the fullness of her immaculate state could never conceive doing such deplorable crimes. Through life experiences, many have compassion for Mary, being able to associate with her life sufferings that resembles a spiritual martyrdom. How many times can one pierce the soul of a person without leaving eternal scars? Only once! Yet, the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was pierced seven times! During the remaining of the day, let us reflect upon the sufferings of the Mother of God. For those who continue to endure similar sufferings, let us pray that they may receive from God the strength that they desperately need to continue to carry their spiritual crosses.

—Fr. Scott Haynes

NINTH ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Join us for the Ninth Annual Memorial Service for Aborted Children at St. Mary Cemetery. On Saturday, September 18th, Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the gravesites of aborted babies and other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the Ninth Annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, a joint project of The Pro-Life Action League, Priests for Life and Citizens for a Pro-Life Society.



Solemn vigils will be held at these sites to commemorate the more than 50 million children who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child. Please join us for the memorial service in our community:

Event: National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

When: Saturday, September 18th, 1:00 PM

Where: St. Mary Cemetery, 87th and Hamlin, Evergreen Park, IL at the gravesite of 500 aborted babies.

Special Guests: Father Ismael Sandoval-Manz, Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Dawn Fitzpatrick, Senior Coordinator for Human Dignity & Solidarity, John Ryan, of Pro-Life Chicagoland South-Southwest.

Please bring a lawn chair. Together let us remember the victims of abortion and pray for a final end to this injustice in our land during the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. For more information contact Roy and Suzanne Pletsch, (773) 847-0261, or pletschdoc@gmail.com



September 22 - October 31
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

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Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil location: Outside the Flossmoor Planned Parenthood. 19831 Governors Hwy.

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

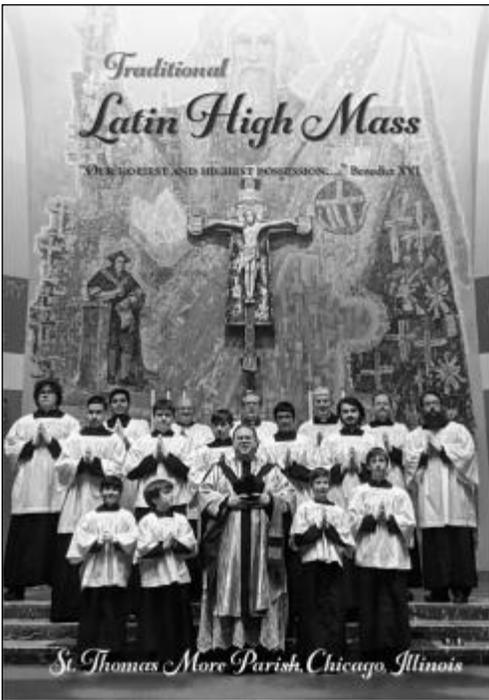
Local contact: Richard, 708-557-0011, 40dsfl@gmail.com

Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/flossmoor

John Ryan from St. Thomas More will be maintaining the 40 Days vigil **each Wednesday and Thursday from 1 PM until 3 PM**. Anyone who wishes to participate at a time when experienced participants will be present is encouraged to join John. For more info contact John by voice or text at 708.945.8247 or by e-mail at domer_10305@yahoo.com.

DVD VIDEOS PROJECT COMPLETE



The DVD editing is complete. DVDs are now available. Musica Pacis is glad to present two special DVD productions featuring the final Latin Mass at our parish, and Msgr. Zborowski's final Mass, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of St. Thomas More.

We made extras, so if you have not placed an order it's not too late. For more information, please contact Fr. Scott Haynes at:

president@musicapacis.org

75th Anniversary of St. Thomas More Parish

1946 - 2021



Re. Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Zborowski, Pastor

Join Fr. Scott A. Haynes on a 10-day pilgrimage to Bavaria and Austria!

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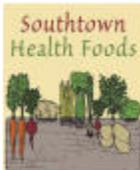
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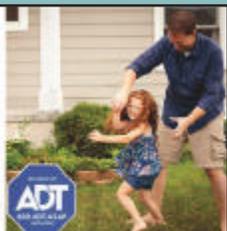
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