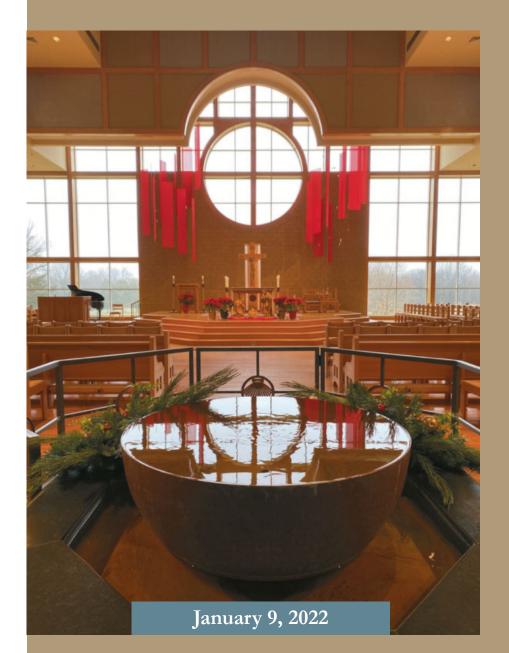
Saint Thomas More

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001 270-534-9000 ~ stmore.org FAX 270-534-4339





Pastoral Staff

Pastor Rev. Brad Whistle fr.brad@stmore.org) Parochial Vicar Rev. Basilio Az Cuc (fr.basilio@stmore.org) Deacon Deacon Terry Larbes (deacon@stmore.org) **Director of Hispanic Ministries** Hna Yessica Vázquez Carro (hna.yessica@stmore.org) Parish Administrator Steve DuPerrieu (steve@stmore.org) **Director of R.C.I.A.** Steve Shoulta (sshoulta@stmore.org) Administrative Assistant (jill@stmore.org) Jill Langston Accounting (ellen@stmore.org) Ellen Anderson Director of Music & Sacramental Preparation (kelly@stmore.org) Kelly Groves Parish Pianist/Organist Derrick Anderson (danderson@stmore.org) **Director of Stewardship & Ministries** Ashley Hayden (ashley@stmore.org) Communications Clayton Walker (clayton@stmore.org) Maintenance Miguelina Young

> Office Hours Monday—Friday 9:00 am—2:00 pm Please call 270-534-9000 or email the staff

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses—Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm in Spanish Daily Masses— Monday at 6:00 pm, Tuesday at 8:00 am, Wednesday at noon at Mercy Health, Thursday at 6:00 pm and Friday at 7:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation—Thursday at 5:30 pm in the Chapel, Saturday 4:00—4:40 pm in the Church

Mass Intentions For January 8 — January 16

Saturday - 5:00 pm — Bob Schneider (d)
Sunday - 9:00 am — Charlie Roof (d)
11:00 am — Michael Shoulta (d)
1:00 pm (Spanish) — Parish Family
Monday - 6:00 pm — Living & Deceased Members of the STM Altar Society
Tuesday - 8:00 am — Gerald Roof (d)
Wednesday - 12:00 pm (Lourdes) — Keith Fairhurst (d)
Thursday - 6:00 pm — Ray Wurth (d)
Friday - 7:00 am — Earl Roof (d)
Saturday - 5:00 pm — Pat Brockenborough Family
Sunday - 9:00 am — Susan Wurth (d)
11:00 am — Dennis & Buna Lowry (d)
1:00 pm (Spanish) — Parish Family

Ministry Schedule for January 15/16					
	5:00 pm	9:00 am	11:00 am		
Sacristan	Ed Puschaver	Rafael Velasquez	Michelle Dunlap		
Lector	Jackie Hopper David Curtsinger	Mike Bosch Alice Penrod	Janet Vannatter Anita Fitch		
Eucharistic Minister	Peggy Culbertson Mary Evans Sam Leone Dolores Webber	Yvonne Bosch Sheree Halicks Mary Katz Val Kortz	John Roof Steve Walker Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed		
Usher	David Burton Steve Dannenmueller Sam York Volunteer Needed	Mike Crider Ray Lane Mike Wurth <mark>Volunteer Needed</mark>	Jack Resser Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed		
Children's Liturgy—Kristen & Gustavo Amaya					
Coffee & Donuts—Sally & David Roof					

	<u>Dec. 26, 2021</u>	<u>Jan. 2, 2022</u>
Regular Collection	\$ 40,692.09	\$ 8,345.58
Online Collections	\$ 16,043.50	\$ 21,693.50
Special Collections	\$ 2,203.00	\$ 705.00
Total Collection	\$ 58,938.59	\$ 30,744.08

Thank you for your generosity!

Did you know you can sign up for Online giving through the Saint Thomas More website (<u>www.stmore.org</u>)? Just click the "online giving" tab (the last option on the right under the stained glass windows) and scroll down to click on the "WeShare Online Giving" button. Questions? Contact Ellen Anderson at 270-534-9000 or <u>ellen@stmore.org</u>.

Hour of Prayer (January 10 — January 15)

Monday: Mary Bumpous Tuesday: Steve & Jean Berry Wednesday: Dolores Webber Thursday: Brenda Greenwell Friday: Steve & Earlene Wurth Saturday: Bret & Maria Avra

Prayer Changes Things

A Message from Fr. Brad Whistle

Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas More,



Once again I say to all, "Happy New Year" and may God's grace and peace be with each of you throughout this year of 2022.

I also wish to say thank you once again to all who helped in any way over the past few

weeks in our preparations for our Christmas and New Years Masses. The decorating both inside and outside the church was superb. The music (as always) was great. All those who volunteered for ministering at Mass was very much appreciated. It was a great effort by many people. Thank you.

Tomorrow (January 10) will be the 42nd anniversary of my priestly ordination. Forty-two years ago tomorrow it was cold and we had a few inches of snow on the ground. Fr. Tony Stevenson and I were ordained together that day by Bishop Soenneker. My first assignment was at Holy Spirit Church in Bowling Green. At that time we also had a Mission church, St. John, in Sunfish, KY. Sunfish is near Brownsville, KY, and not far from Mammoth Cave. That assignment lasted two and a half years. My next assignment in 1983 was as Vice-Principle and Dean of Students at Owensboro Catholic High School for five years. Over the next thirty some years I was at St. Anthony, St. Augustine, and St. Benedict in Grayson County, St. Ann in Morganfield, St. Romuald in Hardinsburg, Precious Blood and Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro. And now I am honored to be in my seventh year here at STM.

What a blessing these forty-two years have been. As with any vocation there have been both good times and bad times. There have been moments that I wanted to freeze in time because they were so great. The other side of that same coin is also true - moments that I would not want to repeat. But even to this day, after forty-two years, I am still humbled that God called me to be a priest. I am frequently in awe at how God is using me as His instrument to reach people. I am grateful to my mom and dad and my whole family for their love and support over the years. What I am especially grateful for is that my mom and dad are just as proud of my two brothers and my sister as they are of me. One quick story: when my sister got married my mom worked day and night for weeks and months in preparation for that wedding. For those of you who have married daughters you understand how so much more time consuming it is than for a son's wedding. After my ordination my mom told me she would rather do five more daughter weddings than another ordination. It was just that much more work. But I think the real stress was that it was so much more in the public eye.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

Fr. Brad

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church





Recently, Pope Francis announced a worldwide synod to focus on the life and mission of the Church as we move forward together. The theme for this synod is, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." Rather than simply a meeting of bishops, Pope Francis has asked us, the

People of God, to take part in the synod—to "journey together" with our brothers and sisters in Christ along the path of renewal, guided by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Father has asked that every parish in the Diocese participate in this synod in order to listen to the living voice of the entire People of God. Our parish will conduct a two-part synodal listening session on *January 25, 2022 and February 22, 2022 in our Parish Hall from 6:00—8:00 pm* as part of the synod. These sessions will provide an opportunity for every member of our parish community to share our thoughts and feelings, but more importantly to discern how the Holy Spirit is guiding us in our journey together. Please join us for this important event. We want you to gather with us. However, if you can't make the parish listening sessions, share your input online at <u>https://owensborodiocese.org/synod/</u>.



Is God calling you or someone you love to the Catholic Church? Sessions every Thursday 6:45 PM in the Parish Hall. This week – <u>Baptism</u> New inquirers welcome at any time. For more information contact Steve Shoulta, sshoulta@stmore.org



CONGRATULATIONS

and Best Wishes to **Rob Hagan and Laura Farrell** who were united in marriage on January 1, 2022 at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church.

Recent Baptisms

Blessings and congratulations to **Blaize Scott Davis and Kael Wesson Davis,** children of Mike and Jessica Davis who were baptized on December 29, 2021 at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church.

M. Kerry Henderson, brother of Lori (Joe) Wiggins, passed away on December 28, 2021. May God welcome him home and comfort his family in their time of sorrow.

Hope Unlimited Bake Sale

On January 22-23 after all the masses there will be the annual "Hope Unlimited Bake Sale in memory of Ella O'Bryan". As

many of you know Ella, A long time Saint Thomas more parish member, passed away in 2018. Because of your generosity over the years, Hope Unlimited has been able to continue to care for unborn babies, children, parents and help fund their medical clinic. If you



are able to bake something please drop it off in the Gathering Space before Mass. Thank you in advance for your generosity.





First Communion

First Communion sessions will start on Monday, January 10 from 6:30 pm—7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. The completion of the sacrament of First Reconciliation is required before children are able to participate in First Communion sessions. For questions or more information contact <u>kelly@stmore.org</u>.



Confirmation

The next Confirmation session will be held on January 16, 2022 from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Sponsors or a substitute sponsor are required to attend the remaining Confirmation sessions. Please contact <u>kelly@stmore.org</u> with questions.

The Baptism of the Lord

<u>January 9, 2022</u>

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

PSALM:

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

SECOND READING:

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

GOSPEL:

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him

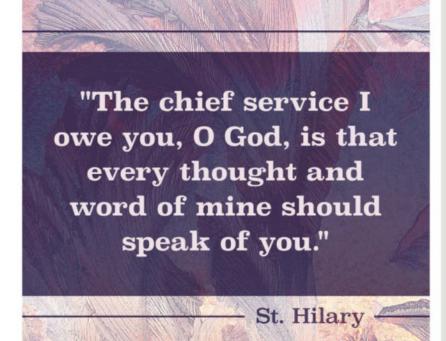
in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

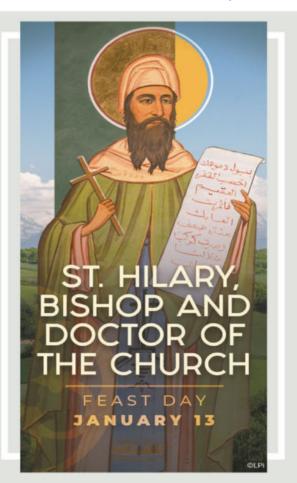
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

Sunday:	
Thursday:	
Sunday:	

The Baptism of the Lord St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time





Saint of the Week

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phyrgia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

I HOPE I AM LIKE HIM

"Who is this Christ? Is he like you?"

Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

"He is nothing like me," the saint is said to have answered. "But I hope I am like him."

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely

from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

AT MY GRANDSON'S BAPTISM, THE PRIEST PUT A BIB ON THE BABY. I DO NOT REMEMBER SEEING THIS BEFORE. WHY IS THIS DONE? IS IT SOMETHING NEW?

presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically



placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers, and this is symbolized by the white garment.

The Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022

Lazarus Retreat

We are pleased to announce a retreat opportunity for high school youth of the Diocese of Owensboro called the Lazarus Retreat. The Lazarus Retreat will be held Friday, Feb. 18-Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center. The cost is \$50 and the deadline to sign up is Monday, Feb. 7, 2022. Drop off will be at 5:00PM on Friday and pickup will be at 12:30PM on Sunday. The goal and theme of the retreat is an intentional invitation to our young people to life in Jesus Christ. To register go to https:// owensborodiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/Lazarus-Retreat-Nov-2021-Registration-Form.pdf.



SO THEY TOOK AWAY THE STONE. AND JESUS RAISED HIS EYES AND SAID. "FATHER, I THANK YOU FOR HEARING ME. I KNOW THAT YOU ALWAYS HEAR ME; BUT BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HERE I HAVE SAID THIS. THAT THEY MAY BELIEVE THAT YOU SENT ME. AND WHEN HE HAD SAID THIS. HE CRIED OUT IN A LOUD VOICE. "LAZARUS, COME OUT!" ~JOHN 11: 41-43

Pastoral Council

Lynn Baker

Jeri Duong

Daniel Miller

Dr. Jeff Case (Chair) Tom Clinton David Leis Julie Turok Rick Goins (Alternate)

Naomi Becker Joe Hobbs David Riley Richard Vieitez **Miguelina Young**

If you have questions or concerns for any member of the Parish Council please contact the Parish Office at 270-534-9000.

Special Care Numbers

St. Mary School System	270-442-1681	
Faith Formation	paducahfaithformation@smss.org	
Mt. Carmel Cemetery	270-534-5593 Please leave a message	
or (John Bufford)	270-331-1006 for plot mapping,	
, , ,	cates of Rights of Burial or burial services	
Hope Unlimited	270-442-1166	
Merryman House	270-443-6001	
Inclusion Representative	(Stacy Jones) 270-210-0351	
Opportunities for Life	800-822-5824	
Behavioral Management	270-442-2223	
SVdP Budget Store	270-442-9351	
SVdP Assistance	270-575-1008	
Paducah Cooperative Ministry	270-442-6795	

FIRTHDAYS

Saturday, January 8

Claudia Burrus, Savannah Guebert, Veronica Holtgrewe, Patty Hughes, Kara Johnston, Marlena Jones, Kyan Leggs, Jose Velazquez Ramirez

Sunday, January 9 Jeffrey Berry, Karen Coronado, Vivi Dossey, Joseph Duncan, Joshua Lang, Lily Watson

Monday, January 10

Frank Block, Becky Hanrahan, Caleb McCoy, Dahlia Ruelas, Wesley Wilson

Tuesday, January 11

Orlando Adams, Lauren Ballard, Juan Carbajal, Barbara Conyer, Max Mason, Tabitha Morris, Herb Straub, Jennifer Tritle Wednesday, January 12

Diane Hesley, Michael Klimek, Johnny Mendoza, Emily Romero, Elena Vaca-Negrete, Reid Waltmon Thursday, January 13

Kenny Hunt, David Leis, James Medley, Megan Morrow, Marely Pacheco, Gene Roof, Brooke Von Bokel, Karen Wadley

Friday, January 14 Darren Becker, Jr., Kelly Butts, Myles Dickens, Donald Durrett, Liam Lucas, Cooper Richison, Gretchen Thompson

Saturday, January 15 Pat Cafferty, Jemma Duffey, Greg Guebert,

Kaitlyn Hobbs, Emma Newton Sunday, January 16

Ana Bautista Hurtado, Todd Butts, Nick Christiansen, Steve Hagan, Blake Harrison, Quinn Kemmerlin, Lucas Lea

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Saturday, January 8

Jerod & Cassie Belford	17 years
Ray & Amy Lane	45 years
Robert & Kay Lawler	19 years
Sunday, January 9	
Michael & Alexandria Louk	13 years
Monday, January 10	
No Anniversaries	
Tuesday, January 11	
No Anniversaries	
Wednesday, January 12	
No Anniversaries	
Thursday, January 13	
No Anniversaries	
Friday, January 14	
Craig & Kathy Willett	27 years
Saturday, January 15	
No Anniversaries	
Sunday, January 16	
Bill & Lisa Muiter	23 years

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

Paducah, KY

Jeanne Abell Mary Jane Albert Mark Anderson Mary Gertrude Barkett Jennifer Dickey Chris Bell Kurt Bell Leslie Bigham Allyssa Hall Binkley **Bob Bouldin** Carol Bouldin Emma Bourgois Jane Brown Lisa Buchanan Jeannie Buckland Judy Bufford Velma Bohle-Carlton Sharon Brumlow Rhonda Chambers **Bobby Condit Christy Condit Opal Cooper** Carol Crane Celine Crane

Carlene Dannenmueller John Davis Teresa Davis Pat Dotson Ann Driver **Emily Dulworth** Bob Dunlap **Betty Falconite** Clete Felts Bill Ford Kerry Frazier **Rose Freiseis** Chris Green Jana Green Carol Harper Cheryl Harrison Diane Hayden Rose Hayden Ann Heavrin Connie Herrmann

Remember in Prayer... Kristyn Hobbs Mollie Huber **Terrie Hummes** Tanya Jones Terry Jones, Jr. Sr. Kateri Kaufman David Kimble Asher King Frances Kirchhoff Ron Kupper Buzz LaGesse Justin Lamb Sam Leone Golda Manning Cody Marshall Stacey Marshall Mary Margaret Mattingly Anna McAlister Anna Lou McNeill Ken Merges Alice Miller Janet Montgomery Steve Montgomery Thomas Montgomery

Charity Peters Judy Ray Larry Ray Nancy Ray Angela Reed David Reed Shirley Renaud Gaye Robinson Peggy Rodeghero Carrick Roof Sheila Roof Lorna Roper Mike Roper Jim Sanders Lexie Shoulta Matthew Shoulta **Caroline Simpson** The Singler Family **Tanya Spalding**

Nancy Stearns Terry Joe Taylor George Thompson **Tony Toren** Leigh Ann Turner M Bernadette Villamor Kelly Curtis Walker Vanessa Walsh Ann Watkins Robin Webb Amelia Wilson Bobbi Wilson Hannah Wilson Linda Wilson Jerry Wurth



Prayer for our Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus. our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Corey Carnes Brian Clayton Cameron Grueninger Timothy Lowman Nathan Phipps Michael Renfro **Corey Spates** Brandon Trevathan Hannah Wilson-Spates Collin W. Travis







Ei