



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me."

- Jn 6:56-57

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

ST. THOMAS MORE

Sunday	8/18	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am	Antonio Russo Dec'd membs. Berking family Christine Neri Dec'd membs. Gumina & Muscaro families Brian Scarpa Christine Vaughn-Neri Charles King Philip Khabbaz Rosa & Armando Secondino Julius Regula & family Frank Tournour Charles King
Tuesday	8/20	6:45am	For Francesca
Saturday	8/24	4:30pm	Rose Solimeo Suzanne Fedele Richard Zuccaro Frank Lafemina
Sunday	8/25	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am	Dec'd. membs. Wisniewski family Gloria O'Donnell Dora Clelia Ferrara Gerarvina DiDonato Sebastiano Pruitt & family Lorraine & Nicholas Dano Robert Murray Natalie Dalleo Angel Hernando Generosa Paci William Ostrander Janice Mullen



“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.” — *Jn 6:56-57*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



The Novena in August will be **Monday, August 19th** at St. Thomas More's Adoration Chapel at 7:00pm. All are welcome!

OUR LADY OF MERCY

Sunday	8/18	7:30am	Bob Thompson Mary Patten
Monday	8/19	8:30am	Klobe Cranner Lucy Mitchell
Tuesday	8/20	8:30am	Robert Stephens
Wednesday	8/21	8:30am	Anthony Aversano Jennifer A. Suto
Thursday	8/22	8:30am	Angela Laterza Hank Incognito
Friday	8/23	8:30am	Marian & Bill Petitt Mass of Thanksgiving
Sunday	8/25	7:30am	Jean & Frank Morganelli Bob Thompson

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS: The next Baptism Preparation class will be held on **September 4, 2024** at 7:15pm. Please call the parish office to pre-register.

As you enter the Church to worship, you will see that there are fresh flowers in the Sanctuary at both St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Mercy Churches. The flowers will be replaced weekly.

Donations will be taken to offset the cost. If you would like to donate for the beautification of the Churches, please place your donations in the box as you enter. Please call the parish office if you would like to donate in memory of a loved one so that the name can be placed in our bulletin. The cost of each memorialized arrangement is \$100.00



The altar flowers this week at St. Thomas More are in loving memory of Joseph Chiarantano and at Our Lady of Mercy in loving memory of Mary Patten.



To learn more about the Knights of Columbus, a Christian Brotherhood devoted to the virtues of **CHARITY, FRATERNITY, UNITY & PATRIOTISM**, contact Salvatore Carollo, Grand Knight for Council 5903 at 732-556-7673. For membership call Lou Mezzina at 908-578-0926 or email Lou at knightsc5903@gmail.com.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25



Legion of Mary

Do you have a devotion to our Blessed Mother? Do you pray the rosary? Would you like to assist our parish and are you looking for a ministry that enriches your spiritual growth as well as benefiting others? Why don't you consider learning about the Legion of Mary? "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." Phil. 2:4. For information, call Amy Knight at 732-446-2563

Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. The Diocese has in place a Victim's Assistance Coordinator, who is available to obtain support for your needs and help you make a formal complaint of abuse

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline;

1 888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org

The Diocese encourages anyone with an allegation to also report that abuse to their local law enforcement agency.

The Diocese reports all allegations received to the appropriate county prosecutor's office.



The ministry of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a person to person service to those in need through a home visit. Members visit the clients in their homes to assess their real needs. Working with the client, a strategy is developed to restore the clients independence and self esteem. Experienced client service members train new members to conduct home visit interviews and to develop recovery strategies using conference and other agency and organization resources. Two members are assigned to a case and have available to them the collective expertise of other client service members. If you or someone you know is in need of our services, please contact us at 732-446-6661, X208 and someone will return your call. Your identity and circumstances will be held in strict confidence.

Sunday, August 11, 2024

Our Lady of Mercy

7:30am \$1,363.00

St. Thomas More

4:30pm	\$2,041.00
8:30am	\$2,581.00
10:00am	\$2,611.00
11:30am	\$2,724.00

We thank everyone for their contributions to our parish. We also encourage all who are joining us virtually at Mass, to please remember to help support the parish by mailing in your weekly contribution, or by using the Faith Direct electronic giving program. Thank You!!

Giving to the Church through your Will is the most common way to continue your support beyond your lifetime. When your estate is prepared, and after providing for your loved ones, please consider a final testament of faith through a bequest in your Will or living trust. For many of us, this will be the most significant gift we will ever make—a gift of a lifetime. God bless you.



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2024 Yearly Essentials, 50% off!

Summer Hours for August:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00am - 4:00pm

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Knights of Columbus



Beautiful Banquet Hall located in Englishtown, rentals for all occasions, 5% off for all Parishioners and their families. Rentals help support our local Council. Call 732-446-8805 for additional information.



The *Columbiettes* is the women's branch of the Knights of Columbus and are affiliated with the local council. We are an organization of

Catholic women dedicated to our Patronesses, Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Theresa the Little Flower and St. Joan of Arc. For more information, please contact MarieElaine Braccia at 646-784-6046 or mebraccia@gmail.com.



James York Acevedo, Jude Andrews, Francesca Beahan, Angela Berglund, Billy Brennan, Barbara Buda, Charles Buda. Richard Carolselli, Linda & Don Carroll, Carol Casey, Bob Concato, Daniel Cummings, Mary Agnes Cummings, Gary Davila, Sofia Diaz, Robert DiLodido, Dudek family, Dominick Eboli, Steve Fiorino, James Fitzgerald, Francesca, James G., Kenneth Garrison, Catherine Giallombardo, Marie Giles, Nicole Gordon, Nicky Incorvai, Christian Incorvai, Nicholas Incorvai, Maxine Kelly, Roger Kutchernrider, Ryan Ludwig, Patrick McGinn, Daniel Meyler, Jess Migliore, Clement Ogunsuyi, Marissa Pace, Joseph Pancale, Rayanne Raya, Jessie, Alaina Rizzo, Joseph James Russo, Maryann Schortje, John Tassone, Tina Tredici, Tony Tredici, Salvatore & Rita Ventura, Victoria Wheeler, & Tom Wilson.

We are updating our prayer list. Names will be kept on for 3 months, unless otherwise notified. Our next update will be in August. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Reese J. Garrie	U. S. Marines
Colin Michael Brager	U.S. Navy
Aiden Meyler-McAuliffe	U.S. Marines
Steven Campo	U.S. Marines
Fr. David Campo	U.S. Navy Chaplain
Sean Burke	U.S. Navy
Calvin Burke	U.S. Marines
Liam O'Connell	U.S. Navy
Michael John Barbato III	U.S. Army
Thomas Bruno	U.S. Army, Airborne
Pvt. Isabella Fountaine	U.S. Army
John Kennedy IV	U.S. Navy
Christopher Rodriguez	U.S. Army
Ethan Daniel Rodriguez	U.S. Marines
Ross R. Garrie	U.S. Marines
Sgt Matthew T. Maurino	U.S. Army, Infantry



WE ARE PREPARING FOR RCIA CLASS

2024-2025

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
For Adults and Late Teens

*"Seek the Living God" Call to Me, and I will answer you;
I will tell you things great beyond reach of your knowledge!
Jeremiah 33:3*

RCIA is for all non-Catholics who wish to be baptized and Catholics who wish to be received into full communion in the Catholic Church and want to inquire about the Catholic Church. We prepare candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation which are Baptism, Confirmation, First Eucharist. The classes also include preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During the Inquiry, Catechumenate, Purification & Enlightenment and Mystagogoy stages of RCIA we study scripture and doctrine which entails an abundance of knowledge for spiritual growth.

Come and see! Meet with us in an informal setting for coffee to discuss questions you have in the Adult Education room. The RCIA Team and I will be meeting one to two Sunday mornings a month throughout the summer – bring a friend. Please call Linda Andrew 732-536-8071 or 732-371-4910 for dates and times.

Parish Registration for Adults

This is a friendly reminder, as we approach certificate of eligibility season, that adults who had previously been (or still are) registered with their parents, should register themselves and their households.

If adult children still live in the Manalapan area and still would like to be active members of the Parish of St. Thomas More, simply register on our website, moremercy.org. If they have moved away, it is the Church in their current area that they should register in, and from which they would obtain a certificate of eligibility to be a Godparent or a Sponsor. Being registered with your local parish is important for receiving the services from the Church, keeping up to date with what's going on, and participating in the life of the community and celebration of the Sacraments.



We are adopting the military personnel at Naval Weapons Station Earle in Colts Neck. There are 286 service members and their families living on the base in 89 housing units. More are stationed there but live in off-base housing. An average seaman starting out only makes about \$3600 a month!

*Unlike most military bases, this base does not have a PX or a commissary where military members and their families can buy discounted food. They are paying **FULL PRICE** for everything making normal day-to-day living difficult for these very important members of our society. The Red Cross has set up a food pantry on the base to help. They need everything; diapers, wipes, personal hygiene, drinks, water, non-perishable foods etc.*

*Please bring your donations in when you go to Mass.
There is a table set up in Petri Hall with a sign which reads:
"Naval Weapons Station Earle"*



Youth Group

Youth Group is accepting applications for membership.

Are you an 8th to 12th grader looking to associate with a group of service and faith oriented teens? Our youth group is a successful collaboration between St. Thomas More and the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold.

All Meetings are held at The Co-Cathedral of St Robert Bellarmine Parish Hall on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 6:00pm –7:30pm. Meetings are conducted in person & virtually at the same time. Please email Deacon Matt, at: deacon_matt@optimum.net for an application or with any questions you may have.

VOLUNTEER



Interested in becoming a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Usher for Masses in our parish churches, Our Lady of Mercy & St Thomas More?

Please send your contact information to annmarieengstm@gmail.com. We are looking to expand our parish ministry and would love to have you!



The Parish Altar Server Ministry is looking for youth altar servers for the 8:30 and 10:00 masses at Saint Thomas More Church. If interested, please see an usher in the back or contact joe.gerardi@moremercy.org for more information.



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Religious Education In Person Classes Begin September 17

On-Line registration is open on our website:
www.moremercy.org.

Please call the Religious Education office at 732-446-3232 or email debbie.gaudino@moremercy.org for more information!

Knights of Columbus – Prince of Peace Council 5903
2nd Annual – Keep Columbus in America "Dinner Dance"



Date: Saturday, October 12 @7:00PM

*Where: St. Thomas More – Newly Renovated Petri Hall
186 Gordons Corner Road, Manalapan, NJ*

Cost: \$50 per Person

To reserve your seat or table please contact:

Rob Braccia 606.499.1449 or Pete Pisaniello 732.598.9782

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FR. DANIEL PEIRANO, PASTOR

2024 Day at the Races A Letter from the Co-Founders



We have set September 15, 2024 for our 22nd Annual Day at the Races to support the esophageal cancer research projects as shown in the link <http://fightec.org/news/research-projects/>

As always, this year's event will be at Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport, New Jersey. The \$65.00 ticket will include admission through the Picnic Area Gates (which are to the left of the Grandstand gates), food and drinks, program and pen for the day's races. We will be in picnic area #3 which is equipped with tables and chairs. The day's activity will begin at 12 noon and it is a rain or shine event.

If you want to see the various sponsorship levels, or want to pay by credit card, you can follow this link: <https://fightec.org/events/day-at-the-races-september-15-2024/> If you prefer to pay by check, please complete the attached form, and return it in the envelope provided.

We must receive all forms by September 1, 2024..

We look forward to seeing you at the Track.

Bart & Ginny Fazzitta
Co-Founders
ECEF
info@fightec.org

Response Card

Request for Tickets must reach us by September 1, 2024.
Tickets and directions to the track will be mailed to you.

Your Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Check# _____

Please see inside panel for Ticket Pricing and Ticket Codes

Ticket Code _____ # of Tickets Needed _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

I cannot attend, but I wish to donate to ECEF \$ _____

2024
Day at the Races
\$65.00 per person
Children under 10 free
Includes: admission to the track,
race program, and BBQ.



Ticket Codes

Diamond Level – CODE A
8 Reserved Seats at the Picnic Event
Name to appear on Poster and on Table.
Trophy Presentation with Picture
Cost: \$2,000.00

Gold Level – CODE B
6 Reserved Seats at the Picnic Event
Name to appear on Poster and on Table.
Cost: \$1,000.00

Silver Level – CODE C
4 Reserved Seats at the Picnic Event
Name to appear on Poster and on Table.
Cost: \$500.00

Bronze Level – CODE D
2 Reserved Seats at the Picnic Event
Name to appear on Poster and on Table.
Cost: \$250.00

Ticket Only – CODE E
Cost: \$65.00 each

In accordance with IRS Regulations, gifts for the Day at the Races are tax deductible.
Each ticket will have a \$37.00 tax deductible amount.



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of August 18, 2024

Sunday:

Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
(9a)/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Monday:

Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday:

Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30,
35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday:

Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mt 20:1-16

Thursday:

Ez 36:23-28/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Mt 22:1-14

Friday:

Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday:

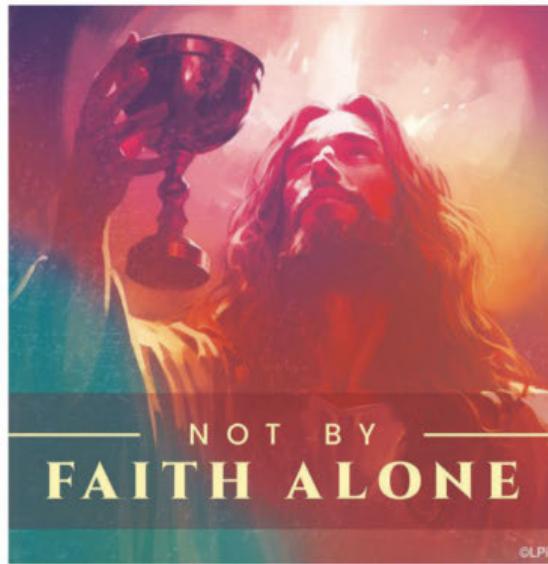
Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51

Next Sunday:

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-
19, 20-21, 22-23 (9a)/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a,
25-32/Jn 6:60-69



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest I know was asked by a door-to-door evangelist, "Do you believe in Jesus?" He answered, "Yes, I do. But if I may ask you," he continued, "Where do you experience Jesus' body and blood?" His interlocutor responded somewhat confusedly, "I don't. I just believe in him. That's all that is needed." Later my priest friend would relate to me, "The more I thought about it, that response struck me as totally inadequate. As human beings, we need to encounter Jesus' body and blood, not just hear about him and mentally believe. Otherwise, Jesus is just a ghost."

This week we see this central point as we arrive at the climactic moment of Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist. Jesus has established the importance of believing in him as the **"bread of life come down from heaven."** Belief deeply matters because it leads to a real, bodily encounter with Jesus through eating and drinking. That's why Jesus emphasizes to an almost outrageous degree the non-metaphorical necessity to **"eat my flesh and drink my blood"** (John 6:54). The real presence of Jesus' body and blood — he himself, truly, really, substantially — has been the Church's treasure since Holy Thursday. Internal belief in the heart and the ritual act of eating and drinking the Eucharist, the Church has stubbornly insisted on *both*, not just one or the other.

This is not meant to criticize non-Catholic Christians who deeply trust and love Jesus, nor is it a triumphal elitist claim about the Catholic Mass. Rather it is a humble, trusting acknowledgement that God in Jesus comes to us in a way most proper to human beings: in our hearts and our bodies, faith and the Eucharist.

— Father John Muir



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Saturday August 24th 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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ST. BARTHOLOMEW

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BEGIN TO
BELIEVE
THERE IS HELP
'OUT THERE,'
YOU WILL
KNOW IT TO
BE TRUE.



FAUNA & FLORA: SIGNS & SYMBOLS OF PLANTS & ANIMALS IN CHRISTIAN ART

AUGUST 25-30, 2024

The role of animals and flowers found in sacred scripture, especially in Catholic art, is prevalent, from their creation in Genesis to the donkey who bore the unborn Christ Child to Bethlehem to the rooster on Good Friday. Join us at the Sacred Art Institute of Saint Edmund's Retreat for this 10-session course of animal drawing and floral study, including discussion as to their signs and symbols.



with Richard
Berger

Richard Berger is a 2005 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and a 2003 graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. He spent his final semester at UPenn studying art and art history in Florence, Italy. In 2006 Mr. Berger founded his art studio in Freehold Borough, New Jersey. Since then, he has worked as a commissioned based artist, specializing in portraiture, still life painting, landscapes, and the sacred arts. He lectures often and gives demonstrations on traditional paint-making procedures and picture-making. His art is featured in many private and public collections.

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ST. ROSE OF LIMA

APART
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CROSS,
THERE IS
NO OTHER
LADDER
BY WHICH
WE MAY GET
TO HEAVEN.



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Prayer

Dear God, help me to keep coming back for more of Jesus every single day. Amen.

Mission for the Week

Ask your parents if you can have a snack of grape juice and bread today. Talk about how the Israelites came to get manna every morning. How can you as a family make Jesus a part of your day, every day?

Sharing the Gospel

Would you like to live forever? Jesus would like you to. God sent Jesus so that one day we could live with him forever in heaven. Remember how the Israelites waited every morning for manna? Do you remember they got so hungry they cried? Well, Jesus wants us to wake up every morning, excited to meet him and talk to him. When we read God's word, and when we pray every day, he wants to come inside our hearts. He wants to be the one to fill every one of our needs.

Now color
the picture!



Unscramble words from today's Gospel reading:

bread	world	life
heaven	eat	true
people	drink	food

edrba b r e a d

lfei — — — —

wldor — — — —

ppleeo — — — — —

dnkri — — — —

fodo — — —

hevena — — — —

tuер — — —

eta — —



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St. Thomas More, Manalapan, NJ

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