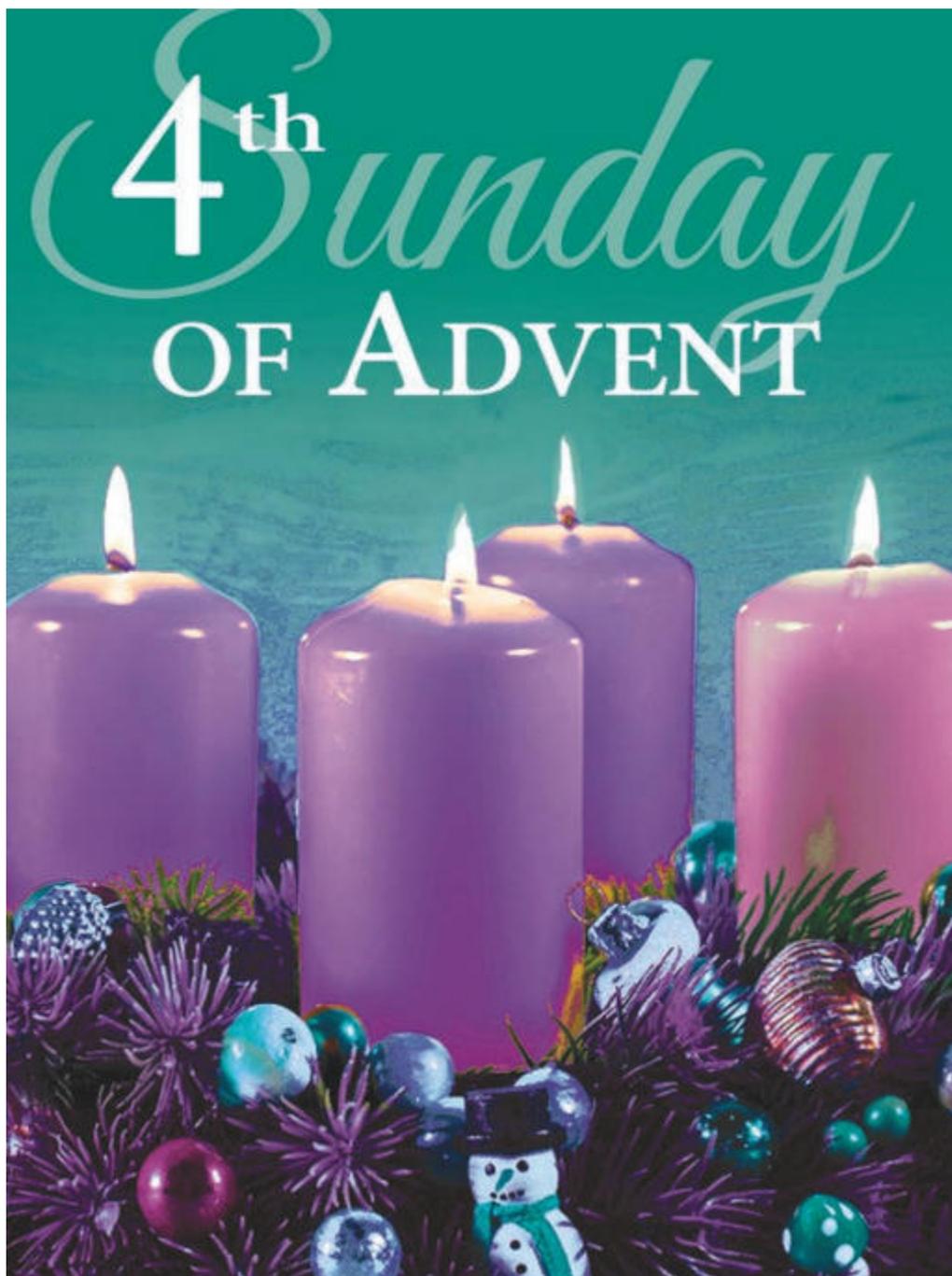


Saint Thomas More Parish

6806 McClean Boulevard * Baltimore, Maryland 21234
410-444-6500
www.churchstmore.net

Rev. Msgr. James P. Farmer, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Michael P. McCoy, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Michael Baxter, Deacon
Mrs. Jane G. Brown, Music Minister
Mrs. Ana R. Trujillo, Coordinator of Religious Education
Ms. Maria A. Boling, Business Manager
Mrs. Carole Small-Charles, Receptionist



Weekend Mass Schedule



**FACE MASK IS
REQUIRED**

**Saturday at 4:30 p.m.
and
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

Weekday schedule is listed
inside the bulletin.

Please join us!



ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Bible Study Group – 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month.
(Sept.-June)

Men's Fellowship Group—
2nd Saturday of each month
at 9 a.m.

Parish Council — 2nd Tues-
day of January, March, May,
September, and November, at
7:00 p.m. All Parishioners
are welcome!

Religious Education —
Grades K-12 classes are held
on Sundays from Sept-May
from at 11:00 a.m.—12:00
p.m. == **Why Catholic (for
Adults)** Sundays from 8:30
to 9:45 a.m.

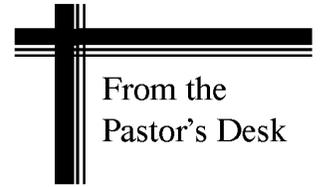
Rosary Group—after the
10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Dear Parishioners,

The Peace of the Lord be with you!

Jesus is the reason for the season. As we conclude the Advent season we focus upon the hope that Jesus brings to the world and to each of us personally. He is with us in all circumstances.



We are so blessed to know that God is with us all of the time. No matter what difficulties we face in life, God is with us. If we have health problems, if we get laid off from our job, if we have family problems, God is with us.

Christmas is the celebration of love. Jesus loved us so much that He left heaven and came to earth so that when we leave earth we can go to heaven and be with Him.

“In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:1-7)

This is the story of Christmas—Christmas is the celebration of the nearness of Jesus to us.

During the Christmas season people exchange gifts with loved ones; the greatest gift we will ever receive is the gift of Jesus. He is the gift of salvation. He is the gift of joy—He is the gift of eternal life. Jesus is the reason for the season.

Thank you for your many gifts to St. Thomas More parish during this year. We deeply appreciate your financial support, your donations to the needy in our area, your gifts for the Giving Tree, the poor box and your talents.

On behalf of our entire staff, we wish you a Blessed Christmas. May the Child Jesus bring the gifts of Peace and Joy to you this Christmas Season.

In Christ,





December 12, 2021

<i>Envelopes</i>	\$
<i>Loose</i>	\$

Thank you for your continued generosity.

ONLINE GIVING is available. Visit our website www.churchstmore.net.

We Pray in Faith that all who have died may be welcomed into the peace of God's Kingdom.



FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Space!





PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for our Parishioners and Friends, especially: Bill Kahler, Dolores Kelly, Wayne Riesner (Suzanne LaVoie's brother), Karen Miller (Mike & Joyce McCoy's niece), Cathy Dreyer (Steve Appel's cousin), Jean Previs and Sr. Kathleen Haughey.

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Go to — FORMED.org/signup
 Enter — St. Thomas More Baltimore
 Enter your name and email.

ADVENT STUDY GROUP

The Study will be held on Tuesday mornings following the 8:30 AM Mass, as well as nights at 6:30 PM, in person. Please join us!



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	12/20	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Carol & Sal Sheredos
Tuesday	12/21	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Emilia Mbinker
Wednesday	12/22	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Denny Nowak
Thursday	12/23	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Madeline & Orlando Liberatore
Friday	12/24	CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 p.m. Mass		James & Josephine Farmer
8:00 p.m. Mass		For the Parishioners
Saturday	12/25	CHRISTMAS DAY
10:00 a.m. Mass		The Farmer Family
Sunday	12/26	
10:00 a.m. Mass		For the Parishioners

Please note:

We will NOT have a 4:30 p.m. Mass on December 25.

**St. Vincent DePaul—
Non-perishable food donations**

Please bring the following requested items or your choice of non-perishable items, Soups, Pasta, Pasta Sauce (not glass) canned fruit, tuna, cereal, snacks, cookies, also paper products and toiletries. If you can spare any bags that are the ones that cost \$1.00 that would be helpful too.

**LIVE THE LITURGY -
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world's political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God's fix be made known.

©LPi

**WHY DO WE DO THAT? -
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact? ©LPi



Readings for December 19, 2021

Mi 5:1-4a
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]
Heb 10:5-10 — Lk 1:39-45

Next Weekend December 26, 2021

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]
Col 3:12-21 — Lk 2:41-52

Welcome to St. Thomas More Parish

Please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket or mail to the Church Office

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

_____ Registered Parishioner _____ Visitor

_____ New Parishioner

_____ Change of address or Phone

_____ Want Envelopes _____ Returning Catholic

_____ Want to register in Parish

_____ Questions about Catholicism

_____ Wish to speak to a priest

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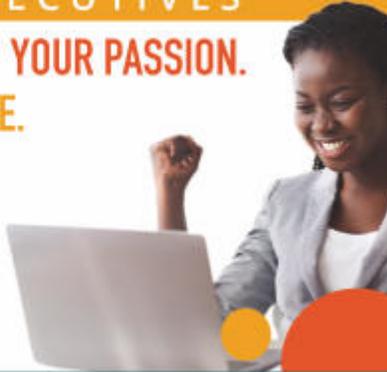
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