

Saint Thomas More Parish

6806 McClean Boulevard * Baltimore, Maryland 21234
410-444-6500
www.stmchurchmd.org



Rev. Jeffrey S. Dausess, 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

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7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those
who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

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

ELP

Mass Schedule



Saturday 4:30 p.m.

and

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Monday—Friday 8:30 a.m.

Holy Days see bulletin.

Please join us!

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

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

Parish Council — 2nd Tuesday 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 11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

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

PLEASE JOIN US!

ONLINE GIVING is available at St. Thomas More.

Please visit our website—www.stmchurchmd.org and click on ONLINE GIVING in the center of the page.
Call the parish office if you need assistance.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

February 19, 2023
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

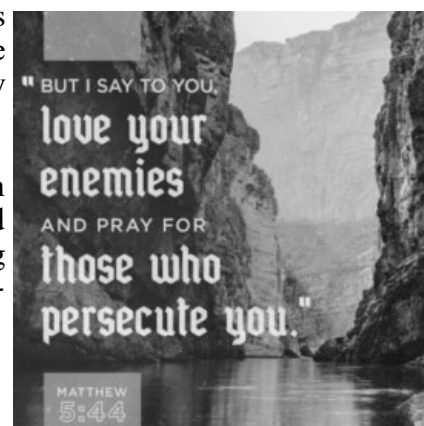
Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally bat-crazy, this one might take the cake: "But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing. But if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren't you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God's love, and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can't be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That's why it is so precious and rare. "What is unusual about that?" asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, he was loving his executioners. In fact, he was holding them in being as they nailed him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing his Mother's heart, while they were doing it. And when he rose from the dead, he showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It's stronger than death. Real love is unusual.

— Father John Muir

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**Readings for February 19, 2023**

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18
 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)
 1 Cor 3:16-23
 Mt 5:38-48

February 26, 2023

: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)
 Rom 5:12-19
 Mt 4:1-11



Please pray for our Parishioners and Friends, especially: Derek Day, Leo McDonough, Fr. John Cunningham, Bob Meek, Mary Kueberth, Al & Stevie Palewicz, and Patrick Michael Fowler (Jim Fowler's nephew).

Weekly Offertory

February 12, 2023 **Attendance** **166**
Offertory **\$2166.00**
Loose **\$ 159.25**



*Thank you for your
 continued generosity.*



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 10 a.m.

Please note the time change!





MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	02/20	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Celia Valerie Wrisk
Tuesday	02/21	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Jerry Komin
Wednesday	02/22	ASH WEDNESDAY
8:30 a.m. Mass		Jessica Q. Lux
7:00 p.m. Mass		For the Parishioners
Thursday	02/23	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Chip Moser
Friday	02/24	
8:30 a.m. Mass		Julia M. Ice
Saturday	02/25	
4:30 p.m. Mass		Emilia Mbinker
Sunday	02/26	
10:00 a.m. Mass		For the Parishioners



The parish office will be closed on Monday, February 20, 2023. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m.

Please join us!

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Want to be a real revolutionary? Defy the fallen impulses of human nature. Love your enemy. Pray for your persecutor. Give to those who would take. We can do hard things, Christians. We aren't perfect, but our God is.

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LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Jesus' Passion: The Story of Redemptive Suffering

TUESDAYS—February 21—March 21

- ♦ Tuesday mornings at STM 9:15 am in the Thomas More Room
- ♦ Tuesday evenings at IHM 6:30 p.m. in the Convent Dining Room



Signup sheets are in the Gathering Space or Call
410-444-6500

LAY CORPORATOR NEWS

As many of you know, Steve Petrucci has served as Lay Corporator for St. Thomas More Parish since day one. Steve decided it is time for him to step down from this position in the parish. It is with grateful hearts we say thank you for your many years of service, support and dedication to this parish. May God's abundant blessings be yours.

Fr. Jeff sent a nomination application, to the Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, for Jim Ellis to be reappointed for another 5 year term and a nomination application for Mary Woods to be appointed for a 5 year term. Both applications were accepted and approved by the Chancellor.



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

Mass at 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Distribution of ashes only from 3 to 4 p.m.



**Stations
OF THE CROSS**

Fridays during Lent at
St. Thomas More
at 3 p.m.

And Friday Evenings beginning,
March 3rd, at IHM 6 p.m. Mass
followed by Stations of the Cross.



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 _____ Special Interest / need _____

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