



# St. Thomas More Church

374 Middlesex Road • Darien, Connecticut • 06820

(203) 655-3303



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • JULY 4, 2021





## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE RACE FOR RESIDENTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MUSTARD SEED COMMUNITIES



Dear Parishioners,  
At a time when the whole world has felt the unimaginable effects of the pandemic, the St. Thomas More Parish community rallied together to support the Mustard Seed Communities, and for that we are very grateful. With a loss of 2 million dollars in revenue from cancelled mission trips for two years, the Mustard Seed Communities is in great need

of funds to continue to provide critical care to its residents around the world. St. Thomas More created three teams to support their Race for the Residents fundraiser – STM Faith Team (prayer), STM Hope Team (exercise), and STM Charity Team (acts of kindness). Collectively we raised over \$30,000 thanks to the very generous donations from parishioners and their family friends. As part of STM Hope Team efforts, the Youth Group organized a YG Olympics and raised \$2,000. As part of STM Charity Team efforts, our religious education program helped to raise funds through sponsors for acts of kindness. Parishioners young and old committed themselves to helping those less fortunate.

St. Thomas More sent its first mission team in 2015 to help Mustard Seed Communities care for its residents who have been abandoned due to physical and/or mental disabilities. Our parish thoughtfully supported a mission team of 20 youth, clergy and chaperones for the following four years. The pandemic prevented us from sending in a team in 2020 and 2021. We kindly ask that you pray for a successful rollout of the vaccine to ensure the safety of the MSC residents and staff around the world. God willing, we are planning to send the next STM Mission Team to Jamaica from June 25, 2022 to July 2, 2022 to serve the Mustard Seed Communities.

On behalf of Fr. Paul, the Mustard Seed Communities staff, STM Hope Team Leaders (DHS Seniors) Lindsay Arrix and Georgia Sheehan, and myself, thank you as always for your commitment to serve the poorest of the poor. Your generosity is a true testament to your love, care and compassion for those in great need. May God bless you always.

With immense gratitude,  
*Susan Lattimer*  
Mission Trip Volunteer

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, July 3

9:00 AM *The People of the Parish*  
4:30 PM Monica von Voss *Rosey Costello*

### Sunday, July 4

*Mass Online at 7:30AM*

7:30 AM *The People of the Parish*  
8:45 AM Fr. Joe Fix *Mary & Phil*  
10:00 AM Brett Kelly *Dennis & Suzanne Zinkand*  
11:30 AM Scott Dansker *Kelly Stewart*  
5:15 PM Sumati Zutshi *The Kaminski Family*

### Monday, July 5

9:00 AM Jane Powers *The Willcox Family*

### Tuesday, July 6

9:00 AM *The People of the Parish*

### Wednesday, July 7

9:00 AM *The People of the Parish*

### Thursday, July 8

9:00 AM George Ondovchak *Silloo Madan*

### Friday, July 9

9:00 AM Ruth & Nora Byrnes *The Byrnes Family*

### Saturday, July 10

9:00 AM *Intentions Susan & Kevin Davidson* *50th Anniversary of Family*  
4:30 PM John Chudy *Jo Mitchell*

### Sunday, July 11

*Mass Online at 7:30AM*

7:30 AM Frank Colandra *The Feeley Family*  
8:45 AM Lucy D'Acunto *The Vesciglio Family*  
10:00 AM Patrick Rudzki *The Kaminski Family*  
11:30 AM *The People of the Parish*  
5:15 PM Scott Dansker *The Lattimer Family*

To request a Mass Intention for the faithful departed, please contact Gigi Williams in the Parish Office: 203-655-3303 or [office@stmdarienct.org](mailto:office@stmdarienct.org).

## STEWARDSHIP

### Offertory

Contributions for June 27	Actual	Budget	Variance
Weekly Offertory	\$23,935	\$18,250	\$5,685
Month-to-Date Offertory	\$87,193	\$73,000	\$14,193
FY-to-Date Offertory	\$1,044,479	\$1,027,869	\$16,610

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

Lily Marie Baraldi  
Margaret Henn  
Elizabeth Garland Wasnick



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES UPDATE

As attendance expands at weekend celebration of the Mass, in line with the CDC, State and Diocesan Guidelines, we welcome back our liturgical ministers as they resume their participation in the liturgy of the word and distribution of Holy Communion.

On behalf of the St Thomas More Parish Community, we would like to thank all of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers for their ongoing service.

We are also looking for new volunteers that would be interested in serving in these ministries at all weekend Masses. Please contact the Parish Office ([office@stmdarienct.org](mailto:office@stmdarienct.org)) or Anne and Jim Davis ([stmlectorem@gmail.com](mailto:stmlectorem@gmail.com)) for more information and to sign up for these vital ministries.

## ST. THOMAS MORE RCIA UPDATE

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which non-Catholic adults become fully initiated into the Catholic Church. The RCIA serves the unbaptized and those baptized in another Christian tradition, as well as baptized Catholics who have not received the sacraments of the Eucharist or Confirmation. Those interested in learning more about the RCIA program should contact the Parish Office and Jim Davis (via email at [davis.jim1957@gmail.com](mailto:davis.jim1957@gmail.com)).

## WOMEN'S CIRCLE THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our parishioners who donated to the **Fill The Pantry Food Drive** for Malta House! An especially big thank you to Anne Hannon and Carmela Alberga for leading this wonderful social outreach project!

The staff at Malta House are so grateful for the support and are overwhelmed with all of the items that were delivered this week, truly filling up their pantry in anticipation of the residents moving into the new facility shortly, stating:

*"So very kind and generous of you all. The pantry is stocked so unbelievably well. I look forward to creating wonderful meals for the ladies. Also they will learn and cook along side myself and other volunteering cooks. Bless you all at Saint Thomas More!"*



## SOUP KITCHEN THANK YOU

Many thanks to Jinx Aliprandi, Greg & Camille Andriunas, Susan Davidson, Laura Grozier, Amy Howe, Sue Mattison, Megan McCarthy, Clodagh McCoole, Robert & Deborah McMullan, RoseMarie Struk, and Jim Sullivan for preparing casseroles, salads and pound cakes for our luncheon at New Covenant Center on Saturday, June 19, along with contributions for the food pantry. Our guests are still receiving their meals via sidewalk pick up...your generosity brightened the day for all recipients!



## MORE MUSIC SUMMER FESTIVAL CHORUS



### A Return to Singing!

The Music Ministry of St. Thomas More Parish is delighted to invite our parishioners and area choral singers to **Return to Singing!** by joining us for the Inaugural Season of the More Music Summer Festival Chorus. Originally planned for summer 2020, we are excited to celebrate coming together to experience the choral art following long months of pandemic silence. We are pleased to offer one of Fairfield County's first opportunities for community singing since March 2020.

Weekly rehearsals start **Wednesday, July 7 at 7:30PM** in the Parish Hall. Beloved choral works by Mozart, Fauré and Mendelssohn along with joyous and contemplative works by contemporary composers will be rehearsed. The festival concludes with a concert on **Sunday, August 29 at 3:00PM**.

Our esteemed guest conductor is **Constance Chase**, Director of the renowned West Point Glee Club at the U.S. Military Academy, with whom she travels, performs, and records extensively.

To register or obtain further information, please visit:

[stmdarienct.org/singing](http://stmdarienct.org/singing)



## HAPPINESS PRESCHOOL

### AFTERNOON 2<sup>S</sup> PROGRAM



Saint Thomas More Happiness Preschool  
is now offering an afternoon drop off  
2s program

Please contact the Director, Maria Hillman  
at [stmhappyschool@aol.com](mailto:stmhappyschool@aol.com)  
or call (203)655-6053 for more information.



- 3-day program on  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and  
Thursdays
- 12 noon to 2:45pm
- Beginning September 2021

## CURRENT WORSHIP & PARISH UPDATE

Please visit [stmdarienct.org/worshipupdate](http://stmdarienct.org/worshipupdate) for our latest information.

### Prayer, Worship and the Sacraments

The church remains open Monday - Friday from 7:00AM to 7:00PM and on Saturday from 7:00AM to 2:00PM for prayer.

### The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Please note that registration will no longer be required for any Mass after May 19, 2021.

### Our Weekend Mass Online

We will continue to provide our weekend Mass online every Sunday at 7:30AM. Visit [stmdarienct.org/massonline](http://stmdarienct.org/massonline).

### Parish Office and Communication

The Parish office is open by appointment. Please call 203-655-3303 or email [office@stmdarienct.org](mailto:office@stmdarienct.org). We continue to send Parish wide notices by way of Constant Contact. To sign up, visit: [stmdarienct.org/cc](http://stmdarienct.org/cc).

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### Malta House



Malta House is an organization that promotes the dignity of God-given life by providing a nurturing home environment, support services, and independent living skills to pregnant and parenting mothers of all faiths and their children. They have been in the

same location on Prowitt Street in Norwalk for more than 22 years and have welcomed 334 mothers and 353 children!

Malta House is moving into a newly renovated home that will increase its capacity by 50%. Our new home is located to 139 West Rocks Road in Norwalk. Stop and See at one of our open houses this July: July 7, 5:30PM-7:00PM; July 11, 11:00AM-1:00PM; July 21, 5:30PM- 7:00PM; July 25, 11:00AM-1:00PM.

Please RSVP by sending an email to Kathleen at [krowland@maltahouse.org](mailto:krowland@maltahouse.org). We are in high demand for volunteers in the Nursery, Cooking, and our Community outreach.

### Malta House Nursery Support

If your gift is with infants and young children, the Malta House nursery will feel like home to you. Our babies come to the nursery as early as 6 weeks old and up to one year of age. Having a hand in molding a child's development is an awesome and exciting responsibility. The rewards abound. The head of our nursery provides guidance and training for all who lovingly embrace our babies, so one should not hesitate to "share the love". For Interested Volunteers opportunities please apply using this link.

### Wedding Anniversaries in our Diocese

All those celebrating 25 years of marriage to 50+ years of marriage are invited to gather at St. Matthew's Parish on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at either 10:30AM or 1:00PM for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Caggiano. More information, including a registration form will be coming soon.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Registration forms and complete information is located on our parish website:

[stmdarienct.org/registration](http://stmdarienct.org/registration)

### Program Options

- Classroom Based "Traditional" Instruction - Grades 1 to 8
- Home Based Learning - Available to non-sacramental preparation years for grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 ONLY

### Classroom Times & Days

#### Lower School - Grades 1 - 6

- Sunday 8:45AM - 9:45AM
- Sunday 11:00AM - 12:00PM
- Monday through Thursday 4:15PM - 5:15PM

#### Upper School - Grades 7 - 8

##### Grade 8

- Monday 6:00PM - 7:00PM
- Tuesday 6:30PM - 7:30PM *limited space available*

##### Grade 7

- Monday 6:00PM - 7:00PM *limited space available*
- Tuesday 6:30PM - 7:30PM

### Questions?

Please contact the Religious Education office (Nikki Mitchell or Betsy Reilly) 203-655-3077 or 203-655-6295 or email: [stmre1-6@stmdarienct.org](mailto:stmre1-6@stmdarienct.org) or [stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org](mailto:stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org).

### Religious Education Office Hours

Office Closed for Summer: **July 1 to August 15**

In-Session Hours: **August 16 to April 3**  
Monday through Thursday 10:00AM to 4:00PM

## CALLING ALL CATECHISTS

We are looking for Catechists for the 2021/2022 School Year for Grades 1-6: Contact: [stmre1-6@stmdarienct.org](mailto:stmre1-6@stmdarienct.org) or 203-655-3077. For Grades 7 & 8 Contact: [stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org](mailto:stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org) or 203-655-6295. Please let us know which grade and day works best for you!

As a reminder all catechists with enrolled children qualify for a \$200 reduction on tuition - please contact the office for further information and to register as a Catechist!

## CATECHIST AIDES NEEDED FOR 2021-22

### High School Students Volunteer Opportunity

Each year we welcome approximately 20 High School young men and women as Catechist Aides in our Religious Education department. It is a wonderful, spiritual and fulfilling endeavor. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Betsy Reilly in the Religious Education office: 203-655-3077 or [stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org](mailto:stmre7-8@stmdarienct.org). You can select a time and day which best suits your schedule!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUMMER MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS

### Lion

A five year old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of kilometers from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia. 25 years later, he sets out to find his lost family

### Wide Awake

He has all the answers...until now! Joshua is a thoughtful 10 yr old looking for some simple answers to life eternal questions. The problem is that no one-including his concerned parents and his colorful 5th grade teacher seems to make any sense. Therefore, Joshua makes it his personal mission to unravel the mysteries himself, and in the process reminds everyone what it's like to wake up to the world for the very first time. With some Christian faith content and great performances from an incredible cast, you'll love the comedy and adventure in this unforgettable motion picture.

### Facing the Giants

Facing the Giants is an action-packed, family-friendly drama from the award-winning producers of Flywheel about a high school football coach who draws up a new game plan for his team... and himself. In his six years of coaching, Grant Taylor has never had a winning season. Even the hope of a new season is squelched when the best player on his Shiloh Eagles decides to transfer schools. After losing their first three games of the season, coach discovers a group of fathers who are plotting to have him fired. Combined with the pressures at home, Coach Taylor has lost hope in his battle against fear and failure. However, an unexpected challenge helps him find a purpose bigger than just victories. Daring to trust God to do the impossible, Coach Taylor and the Eagles discover how faith plays out on the field... and off.

### McFarland, USA

Jim White moves his family after losing his last job as a football coach. He sees that some of the students are worth starting a cross-country team and turns 7 students with no hope into one of the best cross-country teams.

## MEALTIME PRAYERS



### Giving Thanks

For food in a world where many walk in hunger;  
For faith in a world where many walk in fear;  
For friends in a world where many walk alone;  
We give you thanks, O Lord.

### Humble Hearts

In a world where so many are hungry,  
may we eat this food with humble hearts;  
in a world where so many are lonely,  
May we share this friendship with joyful hearts.

### Restore Us

May this food restore our strength, giving new energy to tired limbs, new thoughts to weary minds. May this drink restore our souls, giving new vision to dry spirits, new warmth to cold hearts. And once refreshed, may we give new pleasure to you, who gives us all.

### Grace After Meals

Father, for our food. We thank you, and for our joys:  
help us love you more.

### For Wonderful Gifts

Father of mercy, we praise you and give you glory  
for the wonderful gifts you have given us:  
for life and health, for faith and love,  
and for this meal we have shared together.  
Father, we thank you through Christ our Lord.

### Bless this Food

Blessed are you, Lord our God, maker of heaven and earth  
and Father of all your people: we give you glory for your goodness  
and for your loving care for us. Bless this food [this bread]  
and grant that all who eat it may be strong in body  
and grow in your love. Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
for ever and ever.

### May All Be Fed

May all be fed. May all be healed. May all be loved.

### Picnic or Barbecue

Lord Jesus, our brother, be with us today.  
Bless our happy gathering, and bless this meal that we share.  
Protect us all, and help us to grow in your love.  
Lord Jesus, we praise your holy name for ever.

### Thanks for Family and Friends

Blessed are you, loving Father, for all your gifts to us.  
Blessed are you for giving us family and friends  
to be with us in times of joy and sorrow,  
to help us in days of need, and to rejoice with us in moments for  
celebration. Father, we praise you for your son Jesus, who knew  
the happiness of family and friends, and in the love of your Holy  
Spirit. Blessed are you for ever and ever. Amen.

WILLIAM J.  
FESSLER, DDS



William J. Fessler D.D.S.  
116 East Avenue  
Norwalk, CT. 06851

P: 203 838 3939 | F: 203 866 0406  
email: admin@wfesslerdds.com

THIS SPACE IS  
**AVAILABLE**



**HOFFMAN ENERGY**

Heating Oil for Home & Business

- Home Energy Audits • Electricity Savings
- Heating/AC Sales & Service
- Diesel Fuel • Propane
- Chimney Cleanings

[www.hoffmanfuel.com](http://www.hoffmanfuel.com)

Hod.99 203-396-5579

*Mention  
this ad  
and  
receive a  
\$50.00  
sign on  
bonus!*

**SUPPORT YOUR  
LOCAL PARISH.**

4Pi Buy a bulletin ad space today!



**RELIABLE OIL & HEAT COMPANY**

"HOMETOWN SERVICE SINCE 1922"

HOD #2201, U.C. #S1 3D1979

**Heating & Cooling Experts:**

- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Heating & A/C Service Plans
- Boiler, Furnace and Hot Water
- Oil Purchasing Plans
- Heater Repairs and Installations
- Oil Tank Protection Plans

**Serving Lower Fairfield County**

(203) 324-2141 | [reliableoilandheat.com](http://reliableoilandheat.com)



*Contact Me Today For All Your  
Real Estate Needs!*

**JANINE VAIRO**

REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST & PARISHIONER

203.273.3134

[Janine.Vairo@raveis.com](mailto:Janine.Vairo@raveis.com) | [JanineVairoHomes.com](http://JanineVairoHomes.com)

975 POST ROAD DARIEN, CT 06820

**WILLIAM RAVEIS**  
REAL ESTATE

**NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !**

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin  
emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE  
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**



**\$29.95/MO**

**BILLED QUARTERLY**

PLUS  
SPECIAL  
OFFER

**CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772**  
**WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM**

LET US PLACE  
YOUR AD HERE.

**McCullagh**  
cpa

**Trisha McCullagh**

Parishioner & CPA

[trisha.mccullagh.cpa@gmail.com](mailto:trisha.mccullagh.cpa@gmail.com)

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**

**ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Robin Ungaro** to place an ad today!  
[rungaro@4LPi.com](mailto:rungaro@4LPi.com) or (800) 477-4574 x6447



EDWARD  
**LAWRENCE**  
FOUR GENERATIONS  
FUNERAL HOME

2119 POST ROAD, DARIEN  
**203-655-6127**  
www.lawrencefuneralhome.com

**PALMER'S**



PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE  
COMMUNITY FOR 100 YEARS

WWW.PALMERSDARIEN.COM

There's Always  
Something Cooking At:



401 Westport Avenue,  
Norwalk, CT 06851  
**203-847-2471**  
www.aitoro.com



**WE'RE HIRING**

**AD SALES EXECUTIVES**

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

- Paid Training
- Some Travel



Contact us at: [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) | [www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)



(203) 323-0339



NOW OFFERING  
SINGLE STREAM RECYCLE



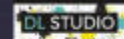
**DAIGLE &  
TRAVERS**  
INSURANCE  
AGENCY, LLC

22 Thorndal Circle  
Suite #2, Darien, CT  
**(203) 655-6974**

**FREE AD DESIGN**

WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

**CALL 800.477.4574**



**DANCE LIKE  
NO ONE'S  
WATCHING**

KIDS CLASSES / ADULT CLASSES / EVENTS & PARTIES  
PRIVATE LESSONS & MORE

DL STUDIO/25 OLD KINGS HIGHWAY N/203.202.9764  
[info@danceonthedl.com](mailto:info@danceonthedl.com)/[www.danceonthedl.com](http://www.danceonthedl.com)

**SUPPORT OUR  
ADVERTISERS!**



Serving Lower Fairfield  
County Since 1945

**Dominick**

Your One Call For Comfort  
FUEL • HEATING • COOLING • PROPANE  
Green Fuels, Dependable Service and  
The Finest Energy Efficient Equipment.  
Indoor Air Quality Solutions  
Service & Maintenance Savings Plans  
203-866-5836 | 203-655-8255  
[Dominickcomfort.com](http://Dominickcomfort.com)

**THIS SPACE IS  
AVAILABLE**

Call LPi at  
**1.800.477.4574**  
for more  
information.

**We've Missed You!**

Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are  
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

[www.ParishesOnline.com](http://www.ParishesOnline.com)

**R. ROSAS**  
LANDSCAPING

**203-962-3401**

Fall/Spring Clean-ups, Gutters,  
Lawn Mowing, Snow Plowing,  
Painting, Junk Removal  
~Family Owned Business~  
[Rosnerrosas@gmail.com](mailto:Rosnerrosas@gmail.com)

**STAND OUT**

with a PREMIUM DIGITAL AD  
on [PARISHESONLINE.COM](http://PARISHESONLINE.COM)



CONTACT US AT 800-477-4574

