

St. Thomas More

Catholic Parish & School

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ February 7, 2021

*"He heals the
brokenhearted and binds
up their wounds. He tells
the number of the stars;
he calls each by name."*

Psalms 147:3-5

What's Inside:

- ♦ *The Search*
- ♦ Military Families
Prayer Board
- ♦ **Mountain Madness**

note from our seminarian



We have heard a lot about unity, and how we as a people of these United States, are not unified and we are in desperate need for unity and healing. So, what is this unity that we are going towards? What is the medicine that is prescribed? Finally, who are we looking towards to provide this unity?

We certainly have many politicians who have promised unity and healing, yet no explanation has been given why we as a Catholic people should be comforted. We need unity, but not to a politicized world, but to God who suffered and died for us upon the cross. It is to Him, the divine person of Jesus Christ that we need to be united and we cannot rest until we are unified with Him for all eternity.

Unity is ultimately about communion with Christ and all who Christ loves. As Christ prayed prior to His passion in John 17:20 “on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.” Unity can not be penned into existence, or legislated into reality, because it has existed in God from all eternity and is not achievable outside of God for life outside of God is by its nature, not fulfilled or unified.

Paul speaks in the second reading today about the humility he takes on to “win over as many as possible” not because of his own graciousness, but because an “... obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it” This obligation is the Gospel message, and we should be genuinely concerned for those persons who oppose the message of Christ.

In today’s Gospel, we see Jesus engaged in healing Simon’s mother-in-law, and how this healing brought several others in need for healing to their door, so that “The whole town was gathered at the door.” But sadly, it is only the disciples who know where to find Jesus the next day even though they tell Jesus that “...everyone is looking for you.”

Our culture's search for unity begins with looking for Jesus but not with a proxy looking for God on our own behalf. The search must be from within ourselves, from our own desire to know God, and ordered not to our passions and vices, but towards God and the Gospel message Christ preached, lived and spilled forth from His body upon the cross.

Our parish community is undertaking a video series called *The Search* not as something for you to watch alone, but to watch along with others with dialogue about how God is speaking in your life and with attention to how God is speaking in the lives of those around us (details on page 4). Please prayerfully consider joining a group of other parishioners to have a journey through lent that searches for God and dare we hope, discovers anew He who died for all our sins and the sins of the whole world.

– Kevin Kasel, Seminarian



Welcome to St. Thomas More!

Go and make disciples

8035 S Quebec St | Centennial, Colorado 80112
303.770.1155 | stthomasmore.org

Clergy

Pastor: Msgr. Thomas Fryar

Parochial Vicars: Rev. John Ludanha, Rev. Rohan Miranda, O.C.D.,
Rev. Ivan Monteiro, O.C.D.

Deacons: Dcn. George Morin, Dcn. Alan Rastrelli, M.D.,
Dcn. David Simonton, Dcn. Steve Stemper
Dcn. George Brown (retired), Dcn. Bob Cropp (retired)
Dcn. Tim Walsh (retired)

Parish Office

303.770.1155 | Hours: Monday–Friday: 8:00AM–5:00PM

Sunday Masses: Saturday (Anticipatory): 4:00 & 5:30PM
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30 & 10:30AM (live streamed); 12:30PM, 5:30PM

Daily Masses: Monday–Friday: 6:30 (live streamed) & 9:00AM.
Saturday: 7:30AM (live streamed)

Confessions: Thursday: 6:30PM & Saturday: 8:30AM. Or contact the parish office for an appointment.

Holy Hour for Vocations: Thursday: 6:30–7:30PM

Perpetual Adoration: 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Chapel. Contact: adoration@stthomasmore.org.

Sacrament of Baptism: For baptisms, contact Kevin Kasel at kevink@stthomasmore.org no less than one month prior to the baptism ceremony. Visit stthomasmore.org for more information.

Sacrament of Matrimony: For weddings, contact Connie Wood at conniew@stthomasmore.org no less than eight months prior to the wedding for marriage preparation information.

Sacrament of the Sick: Contact the parish office at onset of illness. In case of death in the family, contact the parish office immediately at 303.770.1155.

For sacramental emergencies when the parish office is closed, call 303.370.0242.

a reflection on today's readings

Grow as a Disciple

I remember taking my oldest son on a tour of a technical theater program at a state university. He had been considering an IT field – he's everyone's go-to whenever a technical issue arises. The theater professor said, "Enroll in our program only if you can't do anything else." The implication was clear: Choose this field if you love it so much you can't imagine pursuing a different career. My son tried a more practical direction, but ultimately came back to theater, where he thrived! I thought of this story when listening to Paul's Letter to the Corinthians: He preached the Gospel because he had to – excuse the double negative, but he could not "not" share the Good News with everyone he met! Once he encountered Jesus, he willingly devoted his life to sharing the story of love and salvation to all those who he encountered – the weak and the powerful, rich and poor, saints and sinners. Let us pray that God helps us recapture the wonder the crowds must have felt in Jesus' presence – wonder that compels us to share the Good News, too.

Go Evangelize

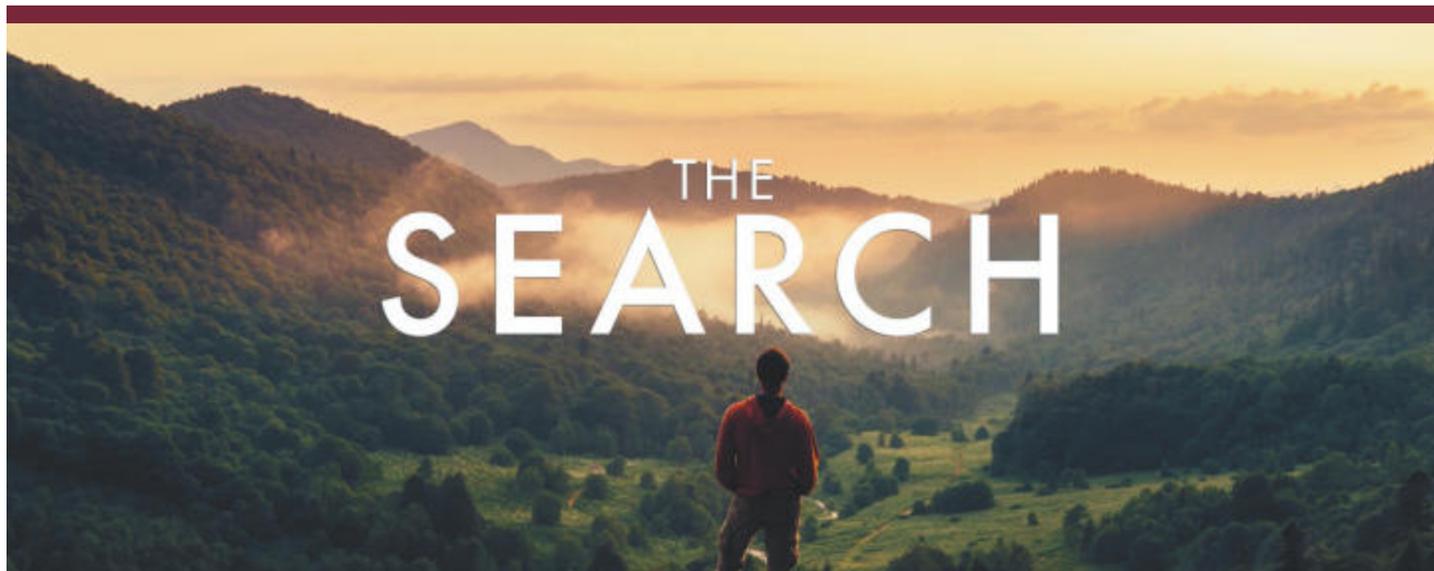
Wherever you happen to live, imagine "the whole town gathered at the door." Even in the smallest of villages, that would be a big deal! So it was with Jesus, where crowds seemed to follow Him wherever He went, wanting to catch a glimpse of this carpenter's son who cured the sick and drove out demons. When the disciples found Him off by Himself, praying and told Him "everyone is looking for you," Jesus tells them they need to move on to nearby villages. I sense an urgency in Mark's account of Jesus' movements, showing Jesus as compelled to reach as many people as possible during His public ministry. As I hear this, I think how easy it is for us Catholics to remain in our comfort zones – whether a favorite pew, the same core group of "parish friends" or even sticking with one ministry or one Mass time. But, as Jesus shows us, preaching the Good News – witnessing to the power of God in our lives – means we cannot stand idly by. We must share this news.

Witness

What if we tried to emulate Jesus, albeit in a small way, by reaching beyond our "circles" to greet someone new at our parish, volunteer for the first time or in a different way or – yes – sit in a different spot! In doing so, we can challenge ourselves to "stretch" a bit and welcome others into our world.

– Written by *The Faithful Disciple*

Editor's note: See page 4 on how to reach beyond our 'circles.'



What is the Meaning of Your Life? Lent 2021 at St. Thomas More

We invite you to journey with us to discover answers to the big questions of life, to deepen our faith and grow closer to our fellow parishioners.

Beginning the week of February 14, we will watch *The SEARCH*, the award-winning, multi-part video from FORMED.

What to Expect

A typical in-person gathering (50 minutes)

- Gathering can be at someone's home or on the parish campus.
- Watch *The SEARCH* video for the week on formed.org.
- Discussion questions provided

A typical virtual gathering (45 minutes)

- Group members watch the current *The SEARCH* video on FORMED prior to the virtual meeting.
- The group meets on Zoom at the appointed time for a 20-30 minute discussion

The SEARCH Schedule

Week of February 14	Episode 1 – What do You Seek?
Week of February 21	Episode 2 – Who are You?
Week of February 28	Episode 3 – Why a God?
Week of March 7	Episode 4 – What's Our Story?
Week of March 14	Episode 5 – Who is Jesus?
Week of March 21	Episode 6 – Am I Saved?
Easter Week	No Meetings
Week of April 4	Episode 7 – Why a Church?

The SEARCH is not meant to be watched alone. We encourage you to form a group of 6-8 people from within the circles of your life. Once you have your small group visit stthomasmore.org/thesearch and enter your name, email and phone number. We will contact you to provide material and directions.

stthomasmore.org/thesearch

prayer



This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for our ill parish members & relatives:

William Malone, Sr., Elizabeth Prosack, Jeanne Rogers, Max Townsend.

Pray for our deceased parish members & relatives:

Inez David, Michael Droege, Dianna Lyons, Barbara Tapp.

Due to the Privacy Act, only immediate family members may request a name to be placed on the prayer list. Please call 303.770.1155.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 7:

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM Sheila Cann †

8:30AM Alma, Laura &

Gloria Rodriguez

10:30AM Mass for the People of St. Thomas More

12:30PM Paul Kammer †

5:30PM Eli Little

Monday, February 8:

6:30AM William Machut †

9:00AM Kyle Longton †

Tuesday, February 9:

6:30AM Shannon Bosco †

9:00AM Charlie & Bernice

Draten & Family †

Wednesday, February 10:

6:30AM Melania Trump

9:00AM Ben Rayos del Sol †

Thursday, February 11:

6:30AM Donald Trump

9:00AM Laura Murphy †

Friday, February 12:

6:30AM William Machut †

9:00AM John Romano †

Saturday, February 13:

7:30AM Jean Ann Giesige †

4:00PM Amie Cresante †

5:30PM Mass of Reparation

Sunday, February 14:

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM Richard Hennessey †

8:30AM Rastrelli Families; Living & Deceased

10:30AM Mass for the People of St. Thomas More

12:30PM Barbara Clarke †

5:30PM Bernard Marcuccilli †

Military Families Prayer Board

Let us pray for your loved one in the military.



We are starting a 'Military Family Prayer Board.' If you have a son or daughter in the military, send us a 3"x5" photo (will not be returned) and which branch they are serving in, so we can pray for them.

Please contact David Tschumper youth@stthomasmore.org 303.220.3388 x1

Exodus40 for Lent

Come together in prayer, asceticism, and fraternity.



Men, are you looking for something new and different for this Lent? Exodus40 is a Lenten journey for men who are wanting more, than just giving up sweets. Exodus40 is an app that provides prayers, readings and penitential practices for daily life in Lent. You can do this by yourself or join a group.

Download the app "Exodus90" on your iphone or andriod and try it out for Free for 7 days. If youlike the app its \$9.99 a month to subscribe, or goto exodus90.com for details.

To join a group contact John Cox at johnc@stthomasmore.org.

Light a Candle

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (Jn 8:12)



Surrounded by the images of Jesus, Mary and many holy saints, people come to light a candle for their loved ones in our Devotional Cove.

We are now offering the opportunity to have a candle lit in the Devotional Cove for you or your loved ones. A member of our clergy will light your candle and pray for your prayer intention.

Visit stthomasmore.org/light-a-candle to order.

Questions of the Week



Adult: When have you felt the sadness of Job? When have you felt the joy of those who witnessed the healing works of Jesus?

Child: What could you do this week to comfort someone who is sad?

faith




Last Week of Our Pilgrimage!

Completion of your passports puts you in the drawing for a pilgrimage with Msgr. Tom to Chimayo, NM. Passports are due **Friday, February 12**. Please visit stthomasmore.org/pilgrimage or call the parish office for more information.

Baptisms



We welcome
Lacy Kyle Freilinger
Noah Luis Huss
who were recently baptized.

Respect For All Life

Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.

– USCCB.org

Ministries History

Help us make our 50th anniversary special!



As we reflect on our upcoming 50th anniversary for our parish, our parish ministries are an integral part of our parish and community life.

We will include photographs and a little history of many of our long-term ministries in our publications throughout the year. We would love to share your photos and stories! Send your information to Irene Lindemer at irenel@stthomasmore.org.

our school

Grow in Faith on FORMED



Discover the truth, beauty and meaning of the Catholic faith anytime and anywhere:

1. Go to signup.formed.org
2. Select "St. Thomas More, Centennial"
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

Join STM Catholic

STM Catholic is a parochial school, deeply rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the teaching of the Catholic Church.




Learn more about our school for preschool through eighth grade come to our **School Open House** this **Friday, February 12** from 1:00–3:00PM!

Enrollment for preschool through eighth grade is now open! Consider our wonderful parish school for your children's education!

In the spirit of Catholic tradition, STM Catholic brings the whole person to Jesus Christ and through excellence in education prepares our students to serve the Church and community now and in the future.

Please visit stm catholic.org or call 303.770.0441 for more information.

time & talent



Blood Drive Results

Thank you donors!



We are so grateful to all of our wonderful donors who gave blood during the Saturday, January 16 blood drive at St. Thomas More!

We collected a total of 109 pints of blood and 3 convalescent plasma. Once again, your generosity and commitment to helping others is amazing.

Our next drive will be Saturday, June 5 in the STM School Gym.

Help Tackle Hunger!

Feed the hungry this Super Bowl weekend!



Help STM Youth feed local food banks and homeless communities. Donate canned goods and non-perishable items to the Souper Bowl of Caring event!

Drop off items in the box marked "Super Bowl of Caring" in the Narthex **this weekend** after all Masses. Questions? Contact Greg Johnson at 303.220.3388 x2 or gregj@stthomasmore.org.

Comfort for the Divorced

Find hope and healing after a separation or divorce.



Divorced men and women are invited to join us for a 12 week program reviewing *Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family* by Rose Sweet.

Mondays beginning on Monday, February 8:
6:30–8:30PM in The Padre

The program covers topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, finances, annulment and remarriage. Cost is \$20. To register, use the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3cdsanX>.

For questions contact Melanie Lauer at melaniel@stthomasmore.org or 303.221.9234.

We are happy to provide childcare if needed. Please contact Amy West at amyw@stthomasmore.org and indicate the names and ages of your children.



Sign up for Weekend Masses!

To attend weekend Masses, use the sign up link on stthomasmore.org. The link will be activated on Mondays at noon and close on Fridays at noon.

Please do not double book in consideration of others. Doors are closed and locked when Mass begins.

For those who do not have access to a computer, call 303.221.9144 on Monday before noon. Leave your name, phone number, Mass time preference, number in your household attending and the number receiving Holy Communion.

If you registered for Mass and can no longer attend, please call 720.838.8353 with your name, Mass time and location. Let us know as soon as possible so we can help another parish family come to Mass.

Live streaming Sunday and Daily Mass on Facebook and YouTube!

Sunday Mass at 10:30AM.

Weekday Masses on Monday through Friday at 6:30AM and Saturday at 7:30AM

To watch Mass on Facebook, go to facebook.com/stthomasmorecatholicparish. To watch Mass on YouTube, visit youtube.com/user/STMCommunications.



Learn about other announcements, giving opportunities events and ministries at our parish by liking our "St. Thomas More Catholic Parish" page on Facebook!

vocations



Traveling Chalice



Praying for vocations this week:

The Gardner Family

Please consider signing up for one of the available weeks! To receive the traveling chalice, contact Karen Smoody at karens@stthomasmore.org.

Interested in Religious Life?

Considering religious life?



All women open to discerning a vocation to religious life are invited to a FREE retreat hosted by Fr. Ryan O'Neill and religious sisters of the Archdiocese of Denver.

Saturday, February 27:
9:00AM–5:00PM at
Spirit of Christ Church (7400 W 80th Ave)

Register at archden.org/vocations



Please pray for our seminarians and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Visit denverseminarians.org for more information & a prayer list.

treasure



At Home Marriage Retreat

Monday–Sunday, February 15–21:

Spend some dedicated time with your spouse each day in prayer and reflection intended to help you renew your commitment “to have, to hold, to honor” your spouse

To register, send your names and emails to Sandra Schwab at sandras@stthomasmore.org.

Giving to STM

STM is so grateful for the generosity of our parishioners!



Enroll in Faith Direct for your offertory. Our secure giving program allows you to make a gift even when you are away or unable to attend Mass.

To enroll in online giving, go to faith.direct/CO739 or download the free app and use our church code: CO739. You can also text the word ENROLL to 720.619.8959 to get started.

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We thank all our bulletin advertisers for their support of STM. We encourage our parishioners to please look at our bulletin ad pages first when you need a service or product in appreciation of their support of our parish. With the sponsorship of our generous advertisers, our bulletin is printed each week at **no cost** to our parish.

If you are interested in advertising your business in our bulletin, please contact John Lascor at 303.210.1010 or jlascor@4ipi.com.

youth: middle & high school



Middle School: Grades 6–8

Sunday, February 7: 10:00AM – Souper Bowl of Caring

Monday, February 8: 7:00PM – Boy Scout Meeting

Wednesday, February 10: 6:00PM – Echofire

Thursday, February 11: 6:00PM – Echofire
6:00PM – Parent Night

Saturday, February 13: 9:00AM – Mountain Madness
9:00AM – Saint Elizabeth Sandwich Line

High School: Grades 9–12

Sunday, February 7: 10:00AM – Souper Bowl of Caring

Monday, February 8: 7:00PM – Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, February 9: 7:00PM – The UC

Wednesday, February 10: 7:00PM – Breakaway
8:45PM – Core Team Meeting

Friday, February 12: 6:00PM – Movie Night

Mountain Madness

Come to this incredible, life-changing conference!



Last chance to register! All middle schoolers are invited to join us for the virtual Mountain Madness conference!

Saturday, February 13:
at 9:00AM in the Youth Center

Cost is \$45. Deadline to register is **this Tuesday, February 9.**

Contact Greg Johnson at gregj@stthomasmore.org or 303.220.3388 x.2.

High School Movie Night

"When He shakes His mane, we shall have spring again."



Join us for a showing of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe!*

Friday, February 12 at 6:00PM
in the Youth Center

Bring a pre-packaged snack to share!

Questions? Email Cheyenne Secor at cheyennes@stthomasmore.org.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Join in our annual tradition to help feed the hungry!



Help tackle hunger by collecting donations for local food banks and homeless ministries!

Make a difference for those in need by volunteering.

Sunday, February 7
10:00AM–12:00PM

If you are interested in helping, please contact Greg Johnson at 303.220.3388 x2 or gregj@stthomasmore.org.

The Search Parent Group



Attention parents of teens and preteens! Join our parent group for *The Search* all Lent long beginning **Thursday, February 11** at 6:00PM.

We will be meeting every Thursday until March 25.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact David Tschumper at youth@stthomasmore.org or 303.220.3388.



Connect with Youth Ministry!
303.220.3388 | stthomasmore.org/youth
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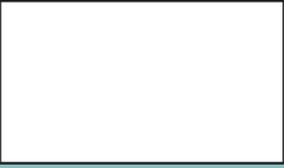
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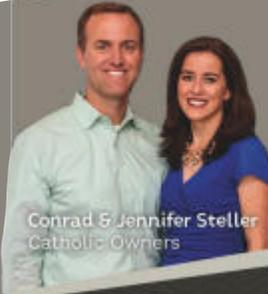
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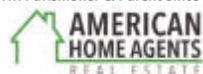
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