



# St. Thomas More

## Catholic Parish & School

Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ | June 6, 2021



"I am the living bread  
that came down from  
heaven," says the Lord;  
"Whoever eats this  
bread will live forever."

*John 6:51*

### What's Inside:

- ◆ **Corpus Christi**  
Procession
- ◆ **Father's Day Novena**
- ◆ **Family Movie Night**

# pastor's note



I had mentioned that we would have a priest with us for the month of June and he has arrived. Fr. Maurice Okeke, from Nigeria, has arrived to begin work here in the Archdiocese of Denver. In order for him to carry out his duties and responsibilities he needs to first get several things taken care of that most of us would not ordinarily think about. Things like a Social Security number, a bank account and a drivers license. He will need to go through the bureaucracy that is a part of life in our daily experience, in order to enable him to share the Gospel message. After completing many such tasks Father will be assigned to another parish in the Archdiocese.

In the meantime, you will see him at Masses and Confessions here at St. Thomas More. I encourage you to welcome him, help him to know our gratitude for his willingness to leave home, family, and that which is familiar in order to follow the Lord's call and serve in a place very removed from his known life. Thank you in advance for your warmth and hospitality to him.

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Although originally from far away, Fr. Maurice and us share in a very important life experience. We all center our lives and faith around the coming together at the celebration of God coming among us in the Eucharist. The Mass, as proclaimed in Church documents and the understanding, is the source and summit of our faith. It is there that we gather as the family of God, to hear the words of Sacred Scripture which helps enlighten us on our pilgrim journey. And it is there that we witness the miracle of Jesus becoming physically present in the Eucharist, in order to give us Himself to aid and strengthen us on that same journey. This week we focus on and celebrate in a particular way the wonder of the Body and Blood of our Lord on this Feast of Corpus Christi.

Last month we stopped to recognize and celebrate our mothers, although they are a part of our life daily. So too, this month we will do that for our fathers. And one of the reasons we set aside special days to recognize that which is so central and important to our very lives is that we sometimes need to step out of the ordinary to recognize the extraordinary love and gift that is present. So it is with the annual celebration of the gift of the Eucharist. Although we celebrate Mass every day of the year except Good Friday, it is proper and right to stop and recognize just what a joy and blessing this gift of the Lord to us is.

Sadly, many do not know the Lord to be present in the Eucharist. Studies show that even a majority of Catholics don't believe in the real presence of Jesus in His Body and Blood on the altar. That probably explains the fact that many don't come to Mass every Sunday as we are called to do. After all, if I understood that God is present in the Blessed Sacrament, how could anything else become more important for me than to come to Him? So I ask you to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Catholic faith, that all will come to know and cherish the gift of the Lord's presence, come among us in the celebration of the Mass. And pray that we might all live in such a way that we become lights which beacon others to the wonder and grace of so great a gift.

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Most schools are out for the season. Many have begun to make and execute their summer plans. If you are traveling this summer, I remind you of the importance of going to Mass each Sunday, at home or afar. If you are in an area where you are not familiar with the local churches and Mass times, you can always find a reference to help you locate a place for Mass at the website [Masstimes.com](http://Masstimes.com). Use this site to make sure your travels and experiences never leave you far from the love of God and the gift of the Eucharist. God keep you safe and bless you during these summer months.

– Msgr. Tom

# a reflection on today's readings

## Grow as a Disciple

It takes only a few moments of holding one's breath to realize how desperately we need oxygen to survive. If only we were always as cognizant and mindful of the importance of the Eucharist for the same reason!

I, for one, confess to approaching the altar with fervent belief in the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ, but also at times doing so while distracted or not fully appreciative of the gift being given to me. But today's solemnity is a powerful reminder not to take the Eucharist for granted. It is the Church's formal and official homage to Jesus Christ who, "with His own blood" obtained for us eternal redemption.

St. Thomas Aquinas offers this description of how wonderful, precious and important the Eucharist is with the following words: "The only-begotten Son of God, wishing to enable us to share in His divinity, assumed our nature, so that by becoming man He might make us gods." (Opusc. 57, 1-4) Like the disciples on the night of the Last Supper, we too receive the body and blood of Jesus under the appearance of bread and wine. He dwells within us, intercedes for us and through grace He transforms us.

## Go Evangelize

Spending time with our Lord at Eucharistic Adoration is a profound opportunity to open our hearts to Him. Just as we know that we cannot love others well if we don't love ourselves, likewise we cannot share the love of Christ with others well if we don't take time to allow Christ to enter our hearts and our lives. By taking the time to talk to Jesus and listen, we can, in turn, witness to His love to others.

We can use this time to pray for a specific person, seek help with a personal dilemma, or ask the Lord to show us where we need repentance and conversion in our own lives so as to be more like Him. The more we are conformed to Christ, the better we can bring Christ to the world.

## Study

Draw closer to the Lord through meditation on the meaning of the Eucharist by reading these "basic questions and answers" about the Real Presence: [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-eucharist/the-real-presence-faqs](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-eucharist/the-real-presence-faqs).

– Written by *The Faithful Disciple*

# prayer



## This Week's Prayer Intentions

### Pray for our ill parish members & relatives:

Pat Barland, Michelle Becker, Leonard Johnson, Rachel & Andrew Logan, Connie Sirokman, Meghan Stewart, Sarai Stricklin

### Pray for our deceased parish members & relatives:

Brian Ellebracht, Sheila Nelson, Fr. Rudy Oborny

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, June 6:

Corpus Christi

7:00AM Mary Elizabeth Ruedy †

8:30AM William Kerrigan †

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

12:30PM Robert Weber †

5:30PM Charles & Denise Jeske †

### Monday, June 7:

6:30AM Fr. Rohan Miranda, OCD

9:00AM William Donald Mohan †

### Tuesday, June 8:

6:30AM Tom Marcuccilli †

9:00AM Bill Bassett

### Wednesday, June 9:

6:30AM Stacy Tawson †

9:00AM Ron & Patty Winter

### Thursday, June 10:

6:30AM Christine Lum Lung

9:00AM Lois Rohleder †

### Friday, June 11:

6:30AM Terrence Boyle †

9:00AM Gertrude & Harold O'Keefe †

### Saturday, June 12:

7:30AM Anthony Dennis West †

4:00PM Patricia Gilmore †

5:30PM Annette Giacchino †

### Sunday, June 13:

11th Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:00AM Charles Chapman †

8:30AM Dennis Fleming †

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

12:30PM Kelvin Doss †

5:30PM Mass of Reparation

## Profession of Faith: Nicene Creed

You may have noticed at Mass that we have returned to praying the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed resulted from the First Council of Nicaea in 325 as a response to the Arian Heresy, which denies the divinity of Christ. Arianism claims that the Son is subordinate to the Father and that, he is divine only in a reduced sense. Trinitarian doctrine rejects this and teaches that the Persons are distinct from each other only as regards their mutual relations.

The Nicene Creed is the most widely accepted statement of faith among Christian churches. It is used by Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglican, Lutheran and most Protestant churches. However, each church's understanding of the creed and its beliefs may differ slightly.

Two primary issues deserve further clarification. The first regards the phrase "catholic and apostolic church"—this does not refer to the Roman Catholic Church as we know it today. The word "catholic" means "universal." The true "catholic" church is all those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. Secondly, "apostolic" means "built on the teaching of the apostles." For Roman Catholics, it also is a statement of support for apostolic succession.

## Father's Day Novena Cards



Father's Day Novena cards and donation envelopes are available at all church entrances.

To have your loved ones remembered at all Novena Masses that begin on Father's Day, please return your Spiritual Bouquet donation envelope by noon on **Friday, June 18**, by mail, collection basket or parish office.

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** In what ways have you practiced the words of Jesus and been bread for others?

**Child:** What can you do to prepare to celebrate Holy Communion with your parish family?

# faith



## Join the Fun at VBS

We can't wait to see you at VBS!



Come to Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer!

**Monday–Friday, June 21–25**  
 Students: 9:00am–12:00pm each day  
 Volunteers (sixth grade through adults): 8:30am–1:00pm

Join us for a fun, faith-filled week. Get ready to go to the Promised Land, because this year we're traveling with Moses through the Red Sea! VBS is for all kids age 4 (by June 1) through incoming fifth graders!

Register by **Monday, June 14** at [stthomasmore.org/faith-formation/for-children/vacation-bible-school](http://stthomasmore.org/faith-formation/for-children/vacation-bible-school).

Questions? Contact Donna Engel at [donnae@stthomasmore.org](mailto:donnae@stthomasmore.org).

## Corpus Christi Procession

A special event to celebrate and honor Corpus Christi



This Sunday, June 6, following the 5:30PM Mass.

On this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, join STM clergy and parishioners for a Eucharistic procession with the monstrance, blessing our community and city.

The route takes us around campus and will include prayers and music.

## Download our Parish App

Information and reflections at your fingertips.



Stay connected to our parish community. Our parish app can give you easy access to daily reflections, Mass readings, online giving and more!

Text APP to 88202. Or, search for "myParish – Catholic Life" in your app store. Once you download the app, follow the welcome screens to look up and select St. Thomas More Parish.



For prayer requests, please visit our website or use our parish app.



Daily readings available on our website & parish app.



## Welcome to St. Thomas More!

*Go and make disciples*

8035 S Quebec St | Centennial, Colorado 80112  
 303.770.1155 | [stthomasmore.org](http://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:** Monday–Friday: 8:00AM, Thursday: 6:30PM, Saturday: 8:30AM

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

**Perpetual Adoration:** 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Chapel. Contact: [adoration@stthomasmore.org](mailto:adoration@stthomasmore.org).

**Sacrament of Baptism:** For baptisms, contact Sandra Schwab at [sandras@stthomasmore.org](mailto:sandras@stthomasmore.org) no less than one month prior to the baptism ceremony. Visit [stthomasmore.org](http://stthomasmore.org) for more information.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** For weddings, contact Connie Wood at [conniew@stthomasmore.org](mailto: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.

# vocations



## Honoring Our Clergy



"And how can people preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring [the] good news!'"

—Romans 10:15

**Thursday, June 10:**  
Ordination Anniversary of

Dcn. George Morin  
Dcn. Steve Stemper



We thank all our clergy for all they do for our parish and wish Dcn. Steve and Dcn. George a blessed anniversary!

## Weddings



We pray for

**Kelsey Dean & Alex Cirves**  
**Briana Fitzgerald & Kelton Grange**

who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

## Celebrating an Anniversary

Honoring the beautiful vocation of marriage



**Ken & Karen Schlipman** – 50 years  
**Ron & Patty Winter** – 48 years  
**Kipper & Marilyn Bell** – 34 years  
**Benjamin & Vicki Mondragon** – 30 years

Happy anniversary! If you would like your anniversary to be published in the bulletin, please send an email to [bulletin@stthomasmore.org](mailto:bulletin@stthomasmore.org) at least two weeks before your anniversary with your names, anniversary date and the number of years you will be celebrating.

# treasure

## Support STM with eGiving!

Thank you for your generosity!



Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Thomas More with safe and secure electronic donations through Faith Direct.

To enroll, go to [faith.direct/CO739](http://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.

## Invest in Your Marriage

*Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage!*



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together.

**Saturday, June 12 & Sunday, June 13**

Attend this virtual Marriage Encounter weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong.

Register by **Tuesday, June 8**. For more information and to register, please visit [wwme.org/apply](http://wwme.org/apply) or call 720.213.8833

## Poor Box

Help the poor and needy of our community.



Consider anonymous almsgiving by donating to the poor box at the side entrances of the church. Donations from the poor boxes are used to purchase King Soopers gift cards to be given to people who come to us with an immediate, and often urgent, need for assistance.



Please pray for our seminarians and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Visit [denverseminarians.org](http://denverseminarians.org) for more information & a prayer list.

# time & talent



## Be Part of the VBS Team

Walk alongside our children during VBS!



We cannot make Vacation Bible School happen without our devoted leadership team!

Adults and incoming 6-12 grade youth are invited to take part in a variety of volunteer leadership opportunities.

Visit [stthomasmore.org/faith-formation/for-children/vacation-bible-school/](http://stthomasmore.org/faith-formation/for-children/vacation-bible-school/) to see all of our volunteer opportunities!

If you are interested in helping, please contact the Amy West at [amyw@stthomasmore.org](mailto:amyw@stthomasmore.org).

## Looking for Ushers

Serve our Lord in a special way!



We are looking for ushers to serve during Mass! Exhibit a warm welcome to all worshipers, helping them to enter more fully into the Eucharistic celebration. Activities include greeting, seating, assisting the physically disabled, collecting the offertory collection and assisting with the preparation of the gifts and the Communion procession.

If you would like to serve as an usher, contact Peggy Finan at [peggyf@stthomasmore.org](mailto:peggyf@stthomasmore.org).

## Join our Preschool Staff!

STM Catholic Preschool is for children ages 3-5.



We have full & part time positions open for Early Childhood qualified teachers. For full job descriptions, visit [stmatholic.org/employment](http://stmatholic.org/employment).

If you are interested please call Mary Tellus at 303.221.9256. or email your resume to [maryt@stthomasmore.org](mailto:maryt@stthomasmore.org).



Find other parish announcements, get inspired, and more by following or parish at [@stmcatholicparish](https://www.instagram.com/stmcatholicparish) on Instagram!

# young adults

## Narnia Book Study

"When Aslan shakes his mane, spring will come gain."



Join other young adults for this new book study about C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia series!*

**Thursday, June 10**  
at 7:30PM  
in the Youth Center.

Questions? Contact Cheyenne Secor at [cheyennes@stthomasmore.org](mailto:cheyennes@stthomasmore.org).

# social

## Family Movie Night

Join us for fun, fellowship and entertainment!



Bring your family and friends for a fun evening of games, treats and a movie starting with outside games and ending with an indoor movie in the gym!

**Saturday, June 26**  
Movie: *An Animated Story of Moses*

Please bring lawn chairs, blankets and pillows. No RSVP needed. For questions, contact Melanie Lauer at [melaniel@stthomasmore.org](mailto:melaniel@stthomasmore.org) or 303.221.9234.

# youth: middle & high school



## Middle School: Grades 6–8

**Monday, June 7:** 7:00PM – Boy Scouts Troop 770 Meeting

**Thursday June 10:** 6:00PM – Echofire

**Saturday, June 4:** 9:00AM – St. Elizabeth Sandwich Line

## High School: Grades 9–12

**Monday, June 7:** 7:00PM – Boy Scouts Troop 770 Meeting

**Tuesday, June 8:** 8:45AM – Road Trip to Castlewood Canyon

**Wednesday, June 9:** 7:00PM – Breakaway

**Friday, June 11:** 1:00–8:00PM – Game Day, Barbecue and Dance

## Sports Camp Mission Trip

Service opportunity for middle school!



Incoming 7th and 8th grade youth are invited to attend a Middle School Youth Ministries mission trip.

We will help lead a Bible Sports Camp in Winter Park for grades K-5th.

**Wednesday, July 14 – Saturday, July 17:**

Please turn in a permission slip and \$125 by **Thursday, July 1.**

Contact Greg Johnson with any questions at [gregj@stthomasmore.org](mailto:gregj@stthomasmore.org).

## High School Road Trips

*All road trips will begin with 9:00AM Mass at STM!*



Join us and explore local Colorado landmarks every Tuesday of June!

### Castlewood Canyon:

Tuesday, June 8 at 8:45AM–3:00PM  
Bring a sack lunch and money for ice cream. RSVP ASAP.

### Cave of the Winds:

Tuesday, June 15 at 8:45AM–4:00PM  
Cost is \$25. Bring a lunch and spending money. RSVP ASAP.

### Castle Rock Outlet Mall:

Tuesday, June 22 at 8:45AM–2:00PM  
Bring money for food and shopping. RSVP by Wednesday, June 16.

To RSVP email David Tschumper at [youth@stthomasmore.org](mailto:youth@stthomasmore.org) or call 303.220.3388.

## BYOT Camp Out

Come to a special youth event on the fields!



Bring your own tent! All youth are invited to join us for a camp out on the STM fields.

High School:

**Wednesday, June 16 – Thursday, June 17** from 7:00PM to 9:00AM  
Contact: Cheyenne Secor at [cheyennes@stthomasmore.org](mailto:cheyennes@stthomasmore.org)

Middle School:

**Thursday, June 17 – Friday, June 18** from 6:00PM to 9:00AM  
Contact: Greg Johnson at [gregj@stthomasmore.org](mailto:gregj@stthomasmore.org).

## Play, Eat & Dance!

*An evening of fun, fellowship and friendly competition!*



All High School youth are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun!

**Friday, June 11** from 1:00–8:00PM

If you want to participate in the games sign up with a team of 6 to 8 people or join as a free agent, let us know by Wednesday, June 9. Contact Cheyenne Secor at [cheyennes@stthomasmore.org](mailto:cheyennes@stthomasmore.org).



Connect with Youth Ministry!  
303.220.3388 | [stthomasmore.org/youth](http://stthomasmore.org/youth)  
[facebook.com/stmyouth](https://facebook.com/stmyouth) | [flocknote.com/stmco](https://flocknote.com/stmco)

# are the consecrated bread and wine "merely symbols?"

In everyday language, we call a "symbol" something that points beyond itself to something else, often to several other realities at once. The transformed bread and wine that are the Body and Blood of Christ are not merely symbols because they truly are the Body and Blood of Christ.

As St. John Damascene wrote: "The bread and wine are not a foreshadowing of the body and blood of Christ—By no means!—but the actual deified body of the Lord, because the Lord Himself said: 'This is my body'; not 'a foreshadowing of my body' but 'my body,' and not 'a foreshadowing of my blood' but 'my blood'" ( *The Orthodox Faith*, IV [PG 94, 1148-49]).

At the same time, however, it is important to recognize that the Body and Blood of Christ come to us in the Eucharist in a sacramental form. In other words, Christ is present under the appearances of bread and wine, not in His own proper form. We cannot presume to know all the reasons behind God's actions. God uses, however, the symbolism inherent in the eating of bread and the drinking of wine at the natural level to illuminate the meaning of what is being accomplished in the Eucharist through Jesus Christ.

There are various ways in which the symbolism of eating bread and drinking wine discloses the meaning of the Eucharist. For example, just as natural food gives nourishment to the body, so the eucharistic food gives spiritual nourishment.

Furthermore, the sharing of an ordinary meal establishes a certain communion among the people who share it; in the Eucharist, the People of God share a meal that brings them into communion not only with each other but with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Similarly, as St. Paul tells us, the single loaf that is shared among many during the eucharistic meal is an indication of the unity of those who have been called together by the Holy Spirit as one body, the Body of Christ (1 Cor 10:17).

To take another example, the individual grains of wheat and individual grapes have to be harvested and to undergo a process of grinding or crushing before they are unified as bread and as wine.



Because of this, bread and wine point to both the union of the many that takes place in the Body of Christ and the suffering undergone by Christ, a suffering that must also be embraced by His disciples. Much more could be said about the many ways in which the eating of bread and drinking of wine symbolize what God does for us through Christ, since symbols carry multiple meanings and connotations.

Excerpted from "*The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist: Basic Questions and Answers*" by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

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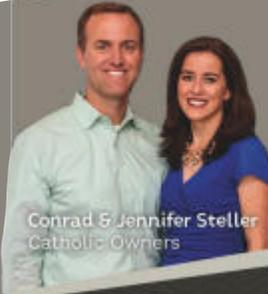
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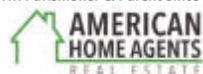
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