



St. Thomas More

Catholic Parish & School

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 22, 2021



- What's Inside:
- ◆ Support **Retired Priests**
 - ◆ **Donut** Sunday
 - ◆ **Broncos** Raffle Tickets
 - ◆ Help in the **Lion's Den**

Eucharist in a Garland by Jan Anton van der Baren (1659)

pastor's note



Every year we have the honor to help advance the work of the Gospel in places beyond our parish, and even archdiocese. The annual Mission Appeal is an opportunity for us to recognize and support the mission work in many places. Next weekend we will have the annual Mission Appeal here at St. Thomas More and I urge you to welcome the speakers that will be sharing with us the labors and love present at Miguel Pro Mission.

Many of you are perhaps familiar with Fr. Peter Urban, a priest from the Archdiocese of Denver who often helps out here with confessions. He is a major force behind the creation of and ongoing work at this mission project in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Plan now on coming with an open and generous heart. Again next weekend we will take up a second collection, immediately following the regular offertory collection. We do this because the Archdiocese asks that, although a stewardship parish who commit some of our charity funds to such a mission endeavor, we are to give all in the parish a specific opportunity to see if the Lord moves them to reach out in prayer and financial support to the work presented to us. So plan accordingly and thank you in advance for your generosity.

This weekend we have the beautiful statement from Joshua that many of you might have on a plaque or picture in your home. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Upon his declaration of allegiance to God, the people responded in kind, citing the good things and wondrous signs that God had shown them. What a contrast to the words of the Gospel of John we have today. As a result of this, many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him. The Him here referring to Jesus.

They had seen miracles, and witnessed the heart changing teachings of our Lord. But when it came to His statement that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood, they found it too hard to accept. I find it sadly ironic that to this day we have many, even within our Catholic Church, who distance themselves regularly from coming to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus at the weekly Sunday Mass.

In the gospel passage Jesus doesn't run after those who leave, trying to dissuade them from their choice. We are all responsible for our either accepting or rejecting the Lord, in the Eucharist especially, and in all ways. So pray for the grace to always serve the Lord. And pray for the wisdom to know that the Eucharist does indeed lead us to eternal life.

– Msgr. Tom



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. Matt Hartley, Rev. Rohan Miranda, O.C.D., Rev. Ivan Monteiro, O.C.D.

Deacons: Dcn. Tim Hathaway, 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 (incense; live streamed);
12:30PM, 5:30PM

Daily Masses: Monday–Friday: 6:30 & 9:00AM. Saturday: 7:30AM

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.

Sacrament of Baptism: For baptisms, contact Sandra Schwab at sandras@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

Have you ever felt nervous in standing up for something, or in taking a position on an issue? Even when the stakes are not particularly high, like a classroom debate over an author's meaning in her text or requesting that customer service fix a take-out order gone awry, it can be nerve-wracking for many of us to have this kind of engagement. It is especially difficult when we sense conflict. Why is that? Why do we care so much what others think of us? What about when the stakes are literally life or death? In today's first reading, Joshua is imploring the people to decide which god they will serve, and he boldly proclaims: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." In the Gospel, some of Jesus' disciples reject His teachings and drift back to "their former way of life." Jesus asks the Twelve whether they, too, "want to leave." Simon Peter responds with the rhetorical question, "Master, to whom [else] shall we go?" Like Joshua, he is bold in his own pronouncement: "You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of God." Today's readings encourage and exhort us to go "all in" when it comes to discipleship. The implication is clear: it matters not what others think of us, or what attraction they might hold for us to acquiesce to them. God alone is the source of life, and the truth. He offers us a way – it's that simple. We simply must decide to serve Him.

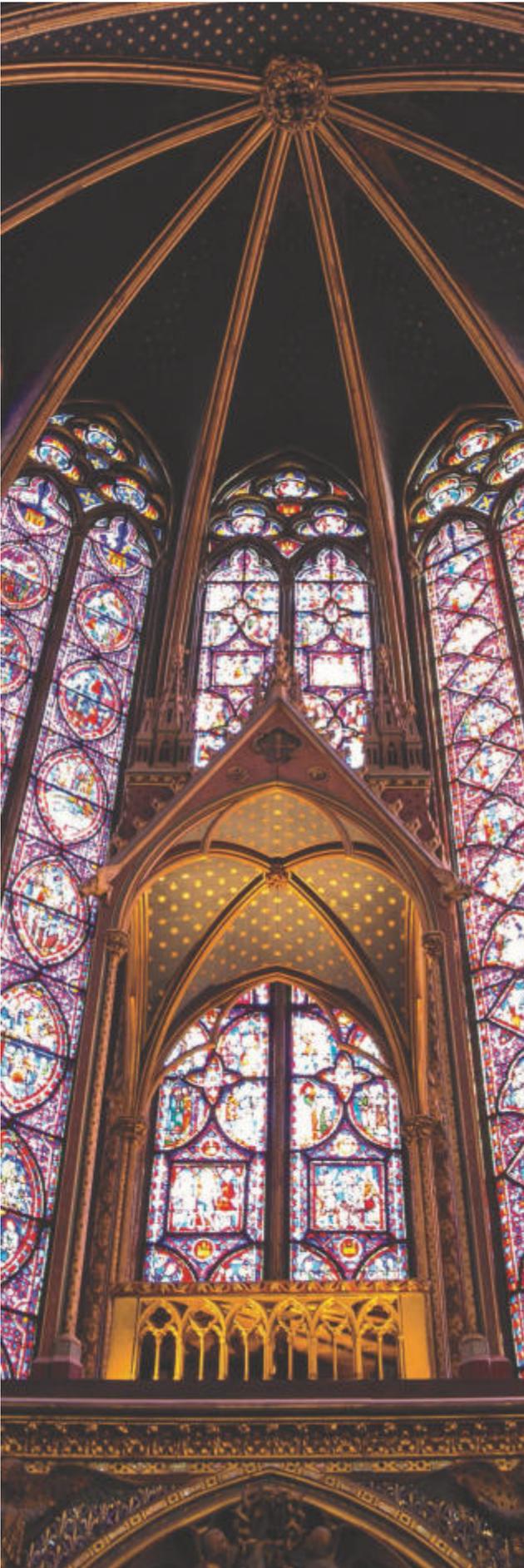
Go Evangelize

At times this commitment, this life of discipleship, is more difficult than other times. Faith is a personal and communal relationship with our Triune God, and just like our human relationships it requires attentiveness, and "[living] in love as Christ loved us." Just as a spouse or roommate can annoy us – being messy, hearing the same joke over and over, and don't get me started on who gets to control the remote! – we may get upset with God because our expectations are not met. But God is God, not "who we think God ought to be." Therefore, today's readings are an encouragement to remain steadfast when things are difficult, with St. Paul comparing the love of Jesus for the Church (all of us!) with the mutual love between a husband and wife. No one said it would be easy. Just as a good marriage requires communication, give-and-take and large doses of forgiveness, so does our relationship with the Lord require prayer, confession, repentance and thanksgiving.

Action

Place Joshua's words on your refrigerator this week: "Decide today whom you will serve ... As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Brainstorm about how each member of your household can do that.

– Written by *The Faithful Disciple*



prayer



This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 22:
 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:00AM Dwaine Thompson †
 8:30AM Sheila Kava
 10:30AM Mass for the People of St. Thomas More
 12:30PM Judy Trzebiatowski †
 5:30PM Tanya Swegler

Monday, August 23:
 6:30AM Christine Finneman †
 9:00AM Michael & Dorothy Scholtes †

Tuesday, August 24:
 6:30AM Christine Finneman †
 9:00AM Pat Little

Wednesday, August 25:
 6:30AM Heath Krosky †
 9:00AM Tessa Harrison

Thursday, August 26:
 6:30AM The Stallard Family
 9:00AM Steve Dilbeck †

Friday, August 27:
 6:30AM Delaney Herzberg
 9:00AM Dorothy & Michael Scholtes †

Saturday, August 28:
 7:30AM John Mossman
 4:00PM Sandra Irvine †
 5:30PM Kaleigh Kinney

Sunday, August 29:
 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:00AM William Machut †
 8:30AM Jim Crawford †
 10:30AM Mass for the People of St. Thomas More
 12:30PM John Trzebiatowski †
 5:30PM Tom McPhillips †

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for our ill parish members & relatives:

Pray for our deceased parish members & relatives:
 Carol Roberts, Leonard Michael Johnson, Esther Mussa, Michael Morpheu

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.

Cancer Novena

Special prayers for those afflicted with cancer and for their families



Come pray a novena for cancer patients and their families for approximately 40 minutes each day.

Daily from **Wednesday, September 1 through Thursday, September 9**, starting at 5:30PM in St. Peregrine Hall.

You may pray privately when attending is inconvenient.

For questions, call Marge Chardavoyne at 303.721.7015. To submit names for the prayer list, to receive the updated list for prayers or to RSVP, email Mark at jmhmah@aol.com.

40 Days For Life

Past 40 Days For Life efforts have saved many babies' lives from abortion



September 22–October 31:
 Join this international effort to end abortion through prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil.

St. Thomas More will pray in front of Planned Parenthood at 7155 E. 38th Avenue, Denver on **Friday, September 24** and **Saturday, October 9**. Msgr. Tom will offer Holy Mass outside Planned Parenthood on **Friday, September 24** at 1:00PM.

Prayer outside the Littleton Planned Parenthood encouraged each Saturday during 40 Days for Life. Sign up at 40DaysforLife.com/Denver (then "Sign Up for Vigil Hours") or contact respectlife@stthomasmore.org.

Welcome Retreat

You are invited to come enjoy a Welcome retreat weekend!



Come to the next Welcome Weekend for an incredible experience that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it.

Women: Saturday–Sunday, September 25–26
Men: Saturday–Sunday, October 9–10



Register online! Visit stthomasmore.org/welcome-retreats or scan the QR code. Cost is \$55. For questions, contact Melanie Lauer at melaniel@stthomasmore.org or 303.221.9234.



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



Daily readings available on our website & parish app.

faith



Donut Sunday



Join us for food, fellowship and fun!

This Sunday, August 22

In the Padre after the 7:00AM, 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 12:30PM Masses

Register Your Kids for 2021 – 2022 Catechesis

Sign up now for our wonderful faith-building programs.



It's time to register for Children's Catechesis and for sacrament classes for this fall. To register online, visit stthomasmore.org.

Families can sign up their children for classes and get answers for questions they may have. Registration closes **Tuesday, August 31** at 12:00 midnight.

Call the Office of Catechesis with any questions at 303.770.0531.

Jeff Cavins' Bible Timeline

Discover God's plan for humanity



Join us for a Bible study where you will gain a comprehensive understanding of all the major people and events in the Old Testament and how they are a foreshadowing of Christ.

Beginning Tuesday, September 14:
9:30AM in St. Francis Hall

Workbooks cost \$40.00 which can be purchased at the first class.

For more information, please contact John Cox at johncox@stthomasmore.org or 303.221.9245.

For Those Grieving the Loss of a Loved One

C.S. Lewis once said, "When people ask me, 'How long does grief last?' I often answer, 'As long as it takes.'"

Grieving and mourning the death of a loved one is a different process for each individual. God never intended that we suffer alone. He created us to care for and support one another.

Tuesdays beginning September 7:
6:00–7:30PM in Peregrine Hall



The STM Bereavement Support Group invites you for a 11-week facilitated series to help you cope with the pain of your loss, to encourage emotional healing and to provide support.

An additional daytime group maybe added if there is enough interest.

To sign up, please contact Becky Garry at bereavement@stthomasmore.org or 720.498.9930.

Men For All Seasons

All men are welcome!



Experience friendship in one of the largest men's group in the parish. Grow in your faith with other like-minded men.

Fridays beginning September 17:
6:15AM in McCallin Hall

STM men's ministry, Men For All Seasons, begins our 15th year this fall, and will be presenting *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players* from Word on Fire.

Contact Dcn. Steve 720.331.1060. or Steve Bell 303.886.1844. for more information.



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

time & talent



Come Learn About the Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts

Come start your next adventure in Scouting!



Cub Scouts (boys in grades K–5) "Join Event" – **Monday, August 30:** 7:00PM in the Youth Center

Boy Scouts (boys in grades 6–12) **Any Monday evening** at 7:00PM in the Youth Center – Come see what we do!

Contact Debbie Sears at tiggerz_4u@yahoo.com or 303.522.6291.

American Heritage Girls

Faith, Family, Service and Leadership.



All families with girls ages 5-18 are invited to learn more about our American Heritage Girls community, a place where girls thrive because Christ is at the center of everything we do.

Join us for an information night to learn more about our AHG Troop.

Monday, August 30: 6:30PM in St. Francis Hall

AHG is a character development scouting program dedicated to building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.

For more information, please contact Troop Coordinator Liz Janousek at thejanousekfamily@gmail.com or 303.882.9809.

Be a Catechist

Share your faith and lead others closer to Christ!



We are looking for generous parishioners to give of their time and talent as a teacher or co-teacher for one of our children's faith formation programs. Please prayerfully consider this wonderful opportunity to share the gift of faith with children in our parish.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can spread the Gospel to our children here at St. Thomas More, please contact John Cox at 303.770.0531 x111 or johnc@stthomasmore.org.

Help in the Lion's Den

High School part time job opportunity!



Calling all juniors and seniors in High School! The Lion's Den after school program is looking for dependable after school helpers!

Our hours are Monday through Friday from 2:30 to 6:00PM from August 2021 until June 2022.

To apply, contact Sarah Teall at saraht@stthomasmore.org or 720.984.7769.

Publish in our Bulletin

Let parishioners know about your ministry!



We are here to help your events, ministries and programs be a great success. Send in your bulletin announcement and website post request **14 days before publish date.**

Just click on the Promotional Submissions link on the home page of our website under Parish Links and complete the form. We will do the rest for you. Email Hannah Crites at hannahc@stthomasmore.org with any questions.

Don't Miss Out

Stay connected with STM!



If you are not receiving regular updates from STM via text or email, you may not be signed up for Flocknote.

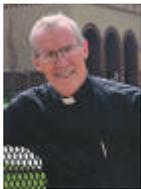
To make sure you are signed up, please contact Nicole Turner at 303.221.9148 or nicolet@stthomasmore.org for help.

treasure



Support Our Retired Priests!

Support the retired priests of our diocese by helping provide for their retirement needs.



Remember the retired priests of our diocese by making a gift to the Retired and Infirm Priests second collection!

This collection is used to directly support all retired priest's welfare including assisted living and memory care, medical costs and much more.

Please make all checks payable to St. Thomas More with "Retired Priests" in the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity, prayers & support of our priests!

Broncos Raffle Tickets



This weekend, the Knights of Columbus will be selling raffle tickets for Broncos games in the narthex after all Masses! The drawing will take place on **Tuesday, August 31**.

For \$10, there are nine chances to win two club level tickets for each of the home games and one VIP parking pass. For more information or for tickets, contact Bobby Rogers at 303.549.0950.

Support STM with eGiving

STM is so grateful for the generosity of our parishioners!



Summer is almost over – have you made the switch to eGiving? It's a great way to support St. Thomas More and grow our ministries that share the Good News of God's love. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting 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.

Mission Appeal Next Week



We will have a representative from Miguel Pro Mission joining us next week for this year's Mission Appeal Special Collection.

Founded by Denver's Fr. Peter Urban, this Denver based mission's focus is to reduce the poverty of families of Juarez, Mexico with the primary goal of education of the children through low-cost Catholic education.

For more information visit miguelpromission.com.

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.

Discover Financial Freedom!

Learn how to manage God's generous gifts!



Find clarity on some of the biggest issues facing your family today.

This eight week series offers a solid Catholic perspective on how to make the most of God's generous gifts.

Beginning on Thursday, August 26
7:00PM in The Padre



Questions? Email financialfreedom@stthomasmore.org or call Fabiola Roll at 720.364.7300. To register, scan the QR code with your phone camera app.

social



Moms and Tots

Join this community of women!



Join other moms with young children to grow in your faith, make new friends, and find support in your vocation as a mother.

We meet in St. Francis Hall two Fridays per month from September through May. Childcare is provided!

To sign up or ask questions please email stm.momsandtots@gmail.com

New Life – Senior Singles



Sunday, August 22 – 4:00PM

Join us for our New Life 42nd Anniversary Dinner! We will be going to the Cheesecake Factory at Southwest Plaza (8501 W Bowles Ave) Contact: Vicki Turner 303.773.8410.

Support for Single Parents

A community of single parents coming together with Christ.



Find balance and support in your role as a parent as we cover topics such as prayer, finance, achieving balance and dating with our Single & Raising Saints program.

Mondays beginning September 13:
6:00PM in St. Peregrine Hall

Cost \$15. To register, use the QR code or visit membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/7295



Childcare is available. To reserve a spot, please email Amy West at amyw@stthomasmore.org by Sunday September 5.

For questions, contact Melanie Lauer at melaniel@stthomasmore.org.

ENDOW Small Group

Join this community of women!



Looking for women in the local area who want to connect in a small group with other women.

Join us for an ENDOW small group every other Tuesday night at 7:00PM (no homework). It's a great way to get to know other authentic Catholic women, many are mothers with kids of varying ages. For more information, contact Betsy Poell at 303.915.9366.

STM Catholic Golf Tournament

Come support our school!



Join us for an exciting day of golf and fellowship at the STM Catholic Golf Tournament!

Friday, September 10
8:00AM shotgun start, lunch to follow. at the Raccoon Creek Golf Course

Questions? Contact Joe Espinosa at joe.espinosa@comcast.net or 720.979.6173.

Men's Pizza and Beer Night

Come to a special event for the men of STM!



All men are invited to join us on for beer, pizza and fellowship.

Tuesday, September 14
at 5:30PM in McCallin Hall

Sponsored by Men for All Seasons and Knights of Columbus.

Please RSVP to 303.221.9144 so we ensure we have enough beer and pizza. We look forward to seeing you there!



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

vocations



Take home a special memento celebrating our 50th Anniversary!

This beautiful ornament is a replica of the crucifix in the sanctuary and our special 50th anniversary logo!



Visit the STM Gift Shop or the parish office to preorder this keepsake Christmas ornament!

Cost is \$10. Ornaments will arrive in November, in time to decorate the tree! Questions? Contact the Gift Shop at joaniez@stthomasmore.org.



Celebrating an Anniversary

Honoring the beautiful vocation of marriage



Leonard & Laura Micek – 51 years
Audley & Janis Webster – 45 years

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

Traveling Chalice



Praying for vocations this week:

The Scelza Family

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



memories from our parishioners



The Choir at participates in Mass in 1991.

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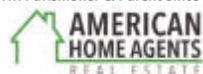
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